



Homework Policy

RATIONALE Homework is an integral part of children's education. It helps maintain communication between the school and home on a child's academic growth and it reinforces basic skills and concepts taught in class.

Homework should be regular, relaxed and non-threatening and above all, useful. No child should be given homework that involves new knowledge or skills. Homework should be a revision of concepts taught in class. Parents should not be required to teach children as part of the homework time.

PRINCIPLES If homework causes stress in a child or parent due to the difficulty of work or the time taken to complete, homework should cease and a letter of explanation given to the teacher the next day. Homework should provide time for parents to positively reinforce and encourage their child's efforts.

HOMework ORGANISATION

Homework can take place from Monday to Thursday with the exception of special days such as Athletic carnivals.

Parents are encouraged to a set regular homework time and place for their children that is conducive to study. Children require a set time so that they become familiar with routine. Create a quiet space for your child with all necessary resources at hand. It is important that television and stereos are switched off. If a child has no set homework then parents are encouraged to get their child to complete some independent reading, writing or maths activities.

Homework diaries may be used to record work set. Parents may check and sign the diary to act as a useful tool of communication between teacher and parent.

HOLIDAY WORK DURING THE TERM

If children are going on holiday in the school term, parents have several options they may like to follow. Parents are able to contact the Education Department's *Distance Education* and have work sent to where they will be during the trip; this is suggested for trips longer than two weeks duration. If however the period away is only short, parents may like to keep a detailed diary of the trip. *Please speak to the classroom teacher as all students will be required to complete school work of some description while on holiday. This work needs to be shown to the teacher upon return.*

Please note, permission must be sought from the principal. Holidays taken through the school term is strongly discouraged.

PROCEDURES In junior primary classes, the main focus is likely to be reading, spelling and practical mathematics. Homework could also possibly include some research skills for news or project work.

It is envisaged the following timelines and formats will be followed:

Year One: 10 minutes

Year Two: 15 minutes

Year Three: 20 minutes

Year Four: 30 minutes maximum including 15 minutes of reading. Children should practise their spelling, mathematics and when required, any unfinished class work. Occasionally children will be given a project to work on during a specified period of time i.e. 4 weeks. It would be appreciated if diaries could be signed weekly.

Year Five: 30 minutes maximum including 15 minutes of reading. Children should practise their spelling, mathematics and occasionally any unfinished class work. Occasionally children will be given a project to work on during a specified period of time i.e. 4 weeks. It would be appreciated if diaries could be signed weekly.

Year Six: 40 minutes per night. This should be divided into 10 minutes reading and 30 minutes of English, Maths, research activities or other subject activities. It would be appreciated if diaries could be signed weekly.