



... celebrating success



Homework Policy

HOMEWORK POLICY

RATIONALE:

Dalkeith Primary School holds the belief that homework can be beneficial to students provided certain conditions and circumstances are adhered to. Regular out-of-hours application of oneself to certain tasks can help build self-regulation, develop confidence and mastery and form good self-disciplinary habits that can be very useful to students as they become life-long learners. Homework supports the development of the student as an independent learner by providing an opportunity to practise skills such as time management, perseverance, goal setting and critical thinking.

PURPOSE:

Homework must provide opportunities for students to practise, review and reinforce skills and concepts already taught in class

OUR BELIEFS:

Homework must be:

- Consistent with the Western Australian Curriculum and be used to assist in the achievement of learning outcomes
- Purposeful and 'the why' made visible to students
- Differentiated and responsive to individual needs
- Achievable within age appropriate time frames
- Consolidation of skills and knowledge learnt in class
- Relevant
- Monitored and marked regularly by the teacher and constructive feedback to student provided
- Communicated clearly to students and parents via student diaries or other communication methods

PROCESS:

Term 1 Parent Information Sessions:

During these class meetings, teachers will present their individual class homework policy. Teachers will outline the types of homework that will be given, frequency, marking arrangements and the responsibilities of students, parents and teachers.

Homework Responsibilities of Students:

Students are responsible for:

- Completing work to a standard in line with their ability and the expectation of the teacher
- Completing work independently as possible
- Collecting homework if they are absent
- Communicating with teachers and parents when assistance is required.
- Submitting work on time
- Entering homework requirements into their diaries (Years 3-6)

Homework Responsibilities of Parents:

Parents are responsible for:

- Supporting students with their homework - but not doing it for them
- Communicating high but realistic expectations of the standard of work
- Communicating with the teacher when concerns arise
- Checking in with their child that they know ahead of time homework deadlines and requirements

Homework Responsibilities of Teachers:

Teachers are responsible for:

- Providing homework that is appropriate to the student's needs and ability level
- Providing guidelines on the approximate time students should spend on homework (NB the time required to complete a task may differ according to student ability/task demands)
- Communicating with parents when problems arise
- Assigning differentiated homework that is related to current classroom instruction with a particular focus on Literacy and Numeracy
- Providing a variety of approaches to completing assigned homework
- Providing timely constructive feedback to students on their completed homework.

GUIDELINES:

Homework in each phase of learning might include the following:

KINDY AND PP

- Read to your child every night
- As the year progresses some small Maths and/or English tasks such as practising sight words and numbers may be set as homework.

YEAR 1-2

- Home reading of teacher provided books
- Home reading of individual choice books
- Mental math activities reinforcing number combinations and processes
- Collecting simple data to support a class activity (e.g. record what you ate for dinner)

YEAR 3-6

Year 3 - 5 – no iPad homework (to encourage iPads to remain at school)– digital based programs can be accessed on a home device

Year 6 – iPad homework allowed (be mindful of the 2.5 hour limit a day)

- Personal reading
- Research to support class work or study projects
- Planning or refining draft work commenced in class
- Activities that reinforce concepts currently being taught in class, or provide remediation/extension of skills and concepts learnt in class.
- Finishing off class work not completed during the school day

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS

- Practise is important for mastery of skills in specialist subject areas such as Science, Music, Japanese, Physical Education and Art. This homework will be at the discretion of the subject specialist teachers and the SIM teachers and is additional to class homework.

Time spent on homework:

The time spent on homework can depend on the child and homework for that week. Below is a general guide per night:

Early Years/Junior primary -	5 - 15 minutes
Middle primary -	20 minutes
Upper primary students -	30 minutes

ADVICE TO PARENTS:

Children need the opportunity to play and relax after school.

Homework is best done at a quiet time set aside for homework completion.

Typically, children will become more independent and responsible for their homework as they reach the middle / upper primary years and therefore should be increasingly encouraged to

complete their homework with minimal input from parents. Make an appointment to see your child's classroom teacher if you have any concerns regarding homework.