**PURPOSE**

The aim of this document is to provide direction for teachers and information for students and their parents.

**RATIONALE**

Homework should be educationally beneficial for students. Homework should meet the negotiated needs and expectations of students, teachers, parents and caregivers.

Homework should:

- be a valuable part of learning
- allow for practice, extension and consolidation of classroom learning
- provide training for students in planning and organising time
- develop a range of skills in identifying and using information resources
- establish habits of study, concentration and self-discipline
- strengthen home-school links
- reaffirm the role of parents as partners in education
- provide parents with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the educational progress of their children
- challenge and extend gifted and talented children and provide appropriate remedial activities for students with learning difficulties

**KEY POLICY STATEMENTS**

Homework is most beneficial when:

- it is set on a regular basis, well co-ordinated and establishes a routine of home study
- it is marked promptly and accurately
- feedback and follow-up are provided to students
- teachers communicate their expectations and set suitable amounts of homework at an appropriate age, stage and capability level of the students
- it reinforces and extends classwork and consolidates basic skills and knowledge
- students take responsibility for their homework
- it is challenging and purposeful, but not so demanding that it has adverse effects on the student’s motivation
- it takes into account students’ home responsibilities and activities such as clubs, sport and recreation
- parents are involved in the formulation and implementation of the homework policy and procedures

**EXECUTIVES’ RESPONSIBILITIES**

The school executive will:

- with all stakeholders, develop and implement a homework policy and supporting procedures for the school
- ensure students, parents and staff are aware of the school’s homework policy and procedures
**Teachers’ Responsibilities**

Teachers will:

- provide quality homework activities relevant to classwork and in accordance with this policy
- set relevant homework that is appropriate to the ability of each student
- ensure the students are aware of what is expected of them and how their work will be assessed
- give students sufficient time to complete their homework, taking into account competing obligations
- mark homework promptly, maintaining records and providing feedback to students and parents
- alert parents of any problems concerning their child’s homework and suggest strategies to assist

**Students’ Responsibilities**

Students will

- ensure that they allocate sufficient time to complete homework within set timeframe
- show their homework to their parents
- seek assistance from teachers or parents when difficulties arise

**Parents’ Responsibilities**

Parents will form a stronger learning partnership with the school when they:

- take an interest in homework by ensuring a time and place is set aside, encouraging and supporting their child to complete their homework
- assist teachers by being aware of the homework set, monitoring homework and signing completed work if requested
- communicate any concerns to teachers about the nature of homework or other activities that may need to be taken into consideration when setting homework

**References**

*Homework Policy*, Department of Education and Communities, 2013
*Homework Policy Guidelines* Department of Education and Communities 2012
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HOMEWORK PROCEDURES.

For all stages

For all grades, Home Reading is an integral component of homework.

K-2 are encouraged to read each night and to exchange their readers on a regular basis. Parents are asked to sign and make any comments they would like in their child’s Home Reader Booklet.

Years 3-6 are expected to read every night at home for extended periods of time (20 minutes or more). This can be silent reading or reading to an adult.

Homework for mathematics

Years 1-2 - counting forwards, backwards, skip counting x1, x2, x5, x10 when mastered introduce x3, x4
Year 3 - skip counting by x1 x2 x3 x4 x5 x6 x8 x10

Years 4-6 are expected to learn times tables appropriate to their year level.
Year 4 - all tables up to 10x10
Years 5 & 6 - instant recall of all tables up to 12x12

SOME HOMEWORK SUGGESTIONS:

- Encourage your child to read and listen to them read regularly.
- Help your child with homework but please allow them to do it themselves.
- Check that homework is completed.
- Help and encourage your child with any times tables they need to practise.
- Praise your child for their efforts and encourage them to seek assistance from their teacher if they are experiencing any difficulties.
- Try some of the activities from the Planning Literacy and Numeracy (PLAN) information sent home at the end of terms one and three.
- Access the sites on the internet highlighted by your classroom teacher by passwords being sent home eg studyladder.