



4.4 POLICY - HOMEWORK

JANUARY 2009

RATIONALE

- Homework is an important part of the learning process. Homework provides opportunities for the student to consolidate ideas and skills learnt at school through revision or completion of daily school activities and through additional research and investigation for assignment tasks. Homework is an important tool in the formation of organisational tools and encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning. Homework also offers an opportunity for parents and other family members to take an active role in the formal school based education of the student.

AIMS

- To provide homework tasks that are flexible and relevant to furthering the learning of the student.
- To ensure homework complements schoolwork without placing stress on the child and family.
- To set tasks in years prep - 6 that encourage revision and consolidation of the learning activities.
- To set tasks in years 7 – 10 that consolidate the ideas and skills taught and provide opportunities for revision or further investigation of the learning activities.
- To set tasks that complement and consolidate VCE and VCE\VET studies.
- To set tasks that can be undertaken by the student independently with support from family members.
- To provide homework that is clear in expectations about the due date and methods of presentation.
- To ensure homework is thoroughly discussed and explained in class.
- To have all tasks checked by the teacher and returned to students.
- To provide a time of positive interaction between students and their families.
- To provide tasks that are achievable and interesting.
- To take into account the individual needs of students and their home-life.
- To support a healthy balance between school life and home life.

IMPLEMENTATION

Responsibilities:

The Teachers' role is to:

- Provide clear expectations, generally through task specific rubrics.
- Explain all homework with examples.
- Ensure that homework is a revision, consolidation or investigation of previously learned concepts or addresses VCE or VCE\VET outcome based tasks.
- Provide practical and achievable activities that encourage learning growth of the students.
- Make modifications to homework for individual students as necessary and appropriate.
- Assess and monitor student progress through correction and discussion of homework.
- Make themselves available to meet with students about their homework on a regular basis.
- Liaise with parents as necessary regarding their child's homework.
- Assist students from Years 3 to 6 in organising their diaries
- Encourage the use of diaries for recording homework in all grades.

The Parents' Role is to:

- Provide a suitable environment in which their child can complete their homework.
- Display a positive attitude towards homework.
- Help their child to organise appropriate time for homework to be completed by ensuring an appropriate routine.
- Guide and support their child to complete homework but not to actually do tasks for them.
- Communicate difficulties or concerns associated with homework to their child's teacher through the diary.
- Sign homework as an indication that they have seen the work being undertaken.

The Students' Role is to:

- Take pride in their work and complete all tasks to the best of their ability.
- Ask for assistance where needed.
- Take responsibility for their work.
- Accept responsibility for homework that is not completed.
- Liaise with teachers regarding homework and outside commitments.
- Take some responsibility for planning their week in regards to homework.
- Discuss their needs with teachers.
- Ensure homework is correctly entered in homework diaries in all grades.
- Refer to assessment planner for major assessment deadlines.

Homework Guidelines

In Years Prep-2:

- Reading and revision of spelling words for no more than 15 minutes per night.
- Take home reader program – 15 minutes a night.

In Years 3-6:

- Reading and revision of all areas of the curriculum for no more than 30 minutes per night.
- This time limit should take into account the individual needs of all children recognising that children work at different levels.

In Years 7 - 10:

- Revision, consolidation and management of upcoming tasks for all areas of the curriculum for no more than 75 minutes per night.
- This time limit should take into account the individual needs of all children recognising that children work at different levels.

In Years 11 - 12:

- Revision, consolidation and management of upcoming tasks for all areas of the curriculum for no more than 120 minutes per night..
- This time limit should take into account the individual needs of all children recognising that children work at different levels.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as part of the School policy review cycle.

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