

HOMEWORK POLICY RATIONALE

Homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, pattern behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning.

The setting of homework takes into account the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, sport, culture, recreation, and part-time employment where appropriate.

PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK

Homework can engage students in independent learning to complement work undertaken in class through:

- ✓ Revision and reflection to consolidate learning
- ✓ Applying knowledge and skills in new contexts
- ✓ Pursuing knowledge individually and imaginatively
- ✓ Preparing for forthcoming classroom learning
- ✓ Exploring topics that enhances student learning:
- ✓ Is purposeful and relevant to students' needs
- ✓ Is appropriate to the phase of learning (K- 2, Y 3- 6, Yr 7- 9 and Yr 10 – 12)
- ✓ Is appropriate to the capability of the student
- ✓ Develops the student's independence as a learner
- ✓ Is varied, challenging and clearly related to the class work.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENT

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- ✓ Discussing with their parents or caregiver's homework expectations
- ✓ Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework expectations within set time frames
- ✓ Following up on comments made by teachers
- ✓ Seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- ✓ Organising their time to manage and balance home expectations, participation in physical activity and sport, cultural and recreational activities and part-time employment
- ✓ Complete homework at a time that is conducive to their personal and family lifestyle

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF TEACHER

Teachers can help students establish a routine of regular, independent study by:

- ✓ Setting homework on a regular basis
- ✓ Clearly communicating the purpose, benefits and expectations of all homework
- ✓ Checking homework regularly and providing timely and useful feedback
- ✓ Using homework that is varied, challenging, directly related to class work and appropriate to students' learning needs
- ✓ Explicitly teaching strategies to develop organisational and time management skills and providing opportunities to practise these strategies through homework
- ✓ Giving consideration to other academic and personal development activities (school based or other) that students could be engaged in when setting homework

- ✓ Discussing with parents and caregivers any developing problems concerning their son/daughter's homework and suggesting strategies to assist with their homework.
- ✓ Being flexible and understanding of students personal circumstances

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENT/CARE GIVER

Parents and Caregivers can help their children by:

- ✓ Reading with them, talking with them and involving them in tasks at home including shopping, playing games and musical instruments and physical activity
- ✓ Helping them to complete tasks by discussing key questions or directing them to resources
- ✓ Encouraging them to organise their time and take responsibility for their own learning
- ✓ Encouraging them to read and to take an interest in, and discuss, current local, national and international events
- ✓ Helping them to establish a balanced lifestyle where the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games, playing sport and music and engaging in other recreational activities is not disproportionate
- ✓ Contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to the homework
- ✓ Providing an expectation that despite personal circumstances that homework is completed
- ✓ Providing a note to explain when homework cannot be completed

TIME EXPECTATIONS

Homework in K-2 could include learning sight words, reading and completing small activities that will contribute to the consolidation of learning on class. It should be no more than 10 minutes a night.

Homework in Yr 3-6 could include learning sight words, reading and completing small activities that will contribute to the consolidation of learning on class but may also include assignment work. Students should not have more than 1 and a 1/2 hours per week.

Homework in Year 7-9 could be up to but generally not more than 3-4 hours per week. Students in these year levels should be given more responsibility for their own learning. They can be required to engage in independent learning to complement work undertaken in class. Homework in Years 7 to 9 could be up to but generally not more than 4 hours per week.

In the Senior Phase, Years 10, 11 and 12, the amount of time devoted to homework and independent study will vary according to the student's learning needs and individual program of learning, determined through their Senior Education and Training (SET) Plan.

- Teachers may provide students with additional work relevant to their learning, which the student may undertake at home.
- Young people during this phase should generally be independent learners exercising their own judgement as to the out-of-hours' time they devote to their studies.
- Care should be taken to ensure a balance is maintained between the various demands of study, sporting, cultural, recreational and part-time employment activities.
- Students in this phase of learning need to take into the consideration the Good Standing agreement and the Senior School Commitment.

CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLETION OF HOMEWORK

If students are unable to complete the required homework due to extenuating circumstances a note should be provided by their parent / guardian.

The following consequences may be applied for the non-completion of homework:

- Recess detention up to 20 minutes duration to complete homework
- Parental contact via phone, letter, email, SMS etc.
- Additional time given to complete homework (potentially additional work the next day)

POLICY REFERENCES

Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 Section 427

<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/E/EducGenPrA06.pdf> P-12

P-12 Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework [P-12 curriculum, assessment and reporting framework \(education.qld.gov.au\)](#)