

HOMework POLICY

March 2016

BACKGROUND

Hilton Primary School's homework policy is reflective of the DoE Homework Guidelines – 2014. It takes into account the needs of the students, their phase of development and the context of the school community. It supports our Business Plan goals of improving literacy and numeracy; extending the time available during the day for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. This policy also acknowledges children need reasonable time for family, recreational and cultural activities.

POLICY GOALS

There is a community expectation that every teacher prepares their students for the next phase of schooling. Homework will be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through to the upper years in the school.

- Homework relates directly to the programs implemented by teachers within the school and is based around developing essential reading skills to support other learning.
- Homework allows higher achieving students to explore new ideas in new situations when given the opportunity and helps to support the development of students in becoming independent learners.
- Homework acts as a means of furthering the relationship between school and home by assisting in keeping parents informed about the teaching programs being implemented and the progress of their child.

Homework can be assigned up to four nights per week (not on weekends). It is not used as a form of punishment or securing discipline. Students who choose to participate in instrumental music programs and/or PEAC may be given classroom work to bring home to allow continuity in their learning and ensure they remain on schedule with the curriculum.

Parents wishing for their child to be exempt from regular homework must inform the school in writing at the commencement of the year.

GUIDELINES

K & PP

Kindergarten teachers give students **fortnightly** picture book packs beginning in Term 2. Students will be required to spend up to **10 minutes** 3 times a week.

Pre-primary teachers give students **weekly** shared picture book packs beginning in Term 1. These packs are to be shared with the child's caregivers. Students will be required to spend up to **10 minutes** reading 4 times within the week. Teachers will use professional judgement in assessing students' readiness to begin reading take home readers in Term 4.

YEARS 1 & 2

Teachers may give homework for **10 to 15 minutes** per night. Activities may include nightly reading, Mathletics or Reading Eggs tasks to extend students' learning.

YEARS 3 & 4

Teachers give homework for up to 15 to **20 minutes** per night. Activities may include: nightly reading, word study, internet-based learning such as Mathletics and Reading Eggs and, where needed, completing unfinished classwork. To help students manage their work load teachers, including specialist teachers.

YEARS 5 & 6

Homework prepares students for the increased individual demands of the secondary school program. Teachers give homework for up to **30 minutes** per night to reinforce the good study habits and time management required to succeed in secondary school. Activities may include: nightly reading, research projects, internet-based learning e.g. Mathletics tasks and completing essential unfinished classwork. Where students have multiple teachers, collaboration occurs to ensure students' homework load is not too great. To help students manage their work load teachers, including specialist teachers, will encourage the use of the school homework diary.

Ref <http://www.det.wa.edu.au/policies/detcms/policy-planning-and-accountability/policies-framework/guidelines/homework-guidelines>

To be reviewed April 2019