

Homework Guidelines



2021-2023

Review date: June 2023

Background

Homework can support higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. It also extends the time available for the exploration of new ideas and new situations. Homework can also extend the time available to the teacher for the monitoring of student progress and can assist in keeping parents informed about the student's learning program and progress.

It is expected that homework will relate directly to the learning and teaching programs appropriate to the needs of students. Preparation of students for the time commitment of homework anticipated in years to come is not, in itself, a reasonable basis for setting homework.

Principles

Homework should:

- Support the development of the student's independence as a learner
- Further the partnership between school and home
- Avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student
- Be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational, cultural and employment pursuits relevant to the student's age, development and educational aspirations
- Be balanced across learning areas so as to avoid stress and overload
- Be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through the upper primary years and sustained through the secondary years
- Be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning area requirements
- Only be used to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes
- Form part of a developmental learning program that is responsive to individual needs, clearly relevant, supported by classroom practice and, where appropriate, developed in collaboration with students
- Be disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline
- Teachers are not required to set homework for holiday periods or periods of time when families choose to take holidays during term time
- Homework is not compulsory, families should have the capacity to engage in activities that are physical and fun – see <https://www.nat7774ureplaywa.org.au/nature-play-wa-app>

Roles and Responsibilities

The Principal is responsible for developing and implementing a documented school approach to homework that is:

- Consistent with the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline* and school plans
- Developed in consultation with the school staff and parents and endorsed by the school Board
- Regularly communicated to students and parents
- Includes general guidelines for parents, where appropriate, as to how they can support and assist their children and
- Supported and implemented by all staff

The school council of an Independent Public School is referred to as the School Board. Both school Councils and Boards must comply with the *School Education Act 1999* and the *School Regulations 2000*.

Scope of Homework at Swanbourne Primary School

Year	Options for Homework Content	Estimated Time
K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent reading daily • News Prep for news day 	10 mins
PP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent reading daily • Home readers • Sound Books 	10-15 mins
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent reading daily • Home readers • Spelling/sight words • Check diary for further information 	10-15 mins
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home readers • Spelling activities • Check diary for further information 	15-20 mins
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home readers and independent reading • Spelling activities • Check diary for further information 	20-30 mins
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home readers and independent reading • Spelling activities • Relevant research as needed for projects and specialty subjects • Check diary for further information 	20-30 mins
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent reading/independent reading • Spelling activities • Relevant research as needed for projects and specialty subjects • Check diary for further information 	20-30 mins
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent reading/independent reading • Spelling activities • Relevant research as needed for projects and specialty subjects • Check diary for further information 	20-30 mins