

Homework Policy and Guidelines

This policy and set of guidelines for homework has been developed following a review of current teacher practices and a survey of parents' views.

Our School Community's Beliefs about Homework

Parents and teachers' beliefs about the value of homework both differ and intersect. The majority of our school community believes homework to be a worthwhile activity for the following reasons. It can:

- Provide quality time for parents to interact with their children;
- Encourage parents or carers to talk with their child about their school work
- Give parents an opportunity to see what their child is doing in class and how they are progressing
- Assist students to practice skills and reinforce work learnt in class
- Assist students to develop independent study skills and self-discipline

Some parents feel strongly that homework should not be set by the school. This policy allows those parents to decline to participate in the class homework program. Parents and students will be given an opportunity to discuss the homework policy on enrolment and a choice made to accept or decline the inclusion of homework tasks as part of their education.

Homework Guidelines

Teachers' Role and Responsibilities

Each teacher is responsible for developing class homework guidelines appropriate for the needs of that year level and the needs of the student. This may include such things as:

- The teacher's goals for students
- The activities which will be set
- How homework will be marked
- What role the teacher expects parents to play in homework
- What parents should do when they find there's a problem with homework

These guidelines will be communicated to parents at the beginning of each year at the Parent Information Session.

Generally speaking, homework tasks will be directed at improving essential skills in literacy and numeracy. In the upper grades, it is common for students to work on longer term assignments and projects. Therefore, homework tasks may relate to these.

Parents' Role and Responsibilities

Parents have a number of responsibilities. These can include the responsibility to:

- Support the school and the teacher's homework policy
- Establish a homework routine
- Encourage and support students to complete homework

Students' Role and Responsibilities

Students need to:

- Be aware of the school's homework policy
- Show homework to parents and teachers
- Organise time to manage home duties and out-of-school activities to include the completion of homework

Time Allocation for Homework

In developing the Wooroolin State School Homework Policy it is acknowledged that students may be engaging in many different activities outside of school. In response to this, the following daily time allocations are recommended:

Prep: Up to 5-10 minutes daily Home reading will commence towards the end of the year at the teacher's and parent's discretion. This will consist of sharing the contents of the home folder with a significant adult at home. This routine is to help children learn the responsibilities of taking books and folders to and from school.

Years 1-3: Up to 15 minutes daily Consisting mainly of daily reading practice and word recognition practice.

Years 4-7: Up to 30 minutes daily Consisting mainly of daily reading practice and other tasks increasing in complexity by the year level and set by the teacher.

Management of Homework

Teachers will mark homework on an *as needs* basis. Students will be encouraged to complete homework through the use of *Caught Being Good* awards, stickers, charts or other appropriate rewards.



Wooroolin State School Homework Activities

- Permission Note -

Name: _____ Yr: _____

Yes, I want my child to participate in homework activities

No, I do not want my child to participate in homework activities

Parent Signature

Date

I agree to complete my homework tasks to the best of my ability

Student Signature

Date