



Homework Policy

Date of policy: 28th July, 2017

Date of last major review: 19th February 2015

Date of next major review: July, 2019

Reviewed by: Josy Reeder

1. Rationale

This policy is based on current key educational research by:

John Hattie-

**task oriented homework, such as rehearsal of basic skills, had higher effects than homework requiring deep learning or problem solving. Effects were also higher when homework was not complex*

**Parent support for homework has a positive effect on achievement, whereas direct instruction by parents can have the opposite*

**a large amount of homework tends to lower student achievement*

- Homework benefits students by complementing the teaching and learning within the classroom.
- Homework fosters good study habits, providing students with opportunities to take responsibility for their own learning.
- Homework increases parent awareness and develops home-school links.

2. Aims

- To support and reinforce classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop a responsibility for self-learning.

3. Implementation

- The school's homework policy will be distributed to parents at the commencement of each school year.
- Activities are to be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum
- Classroom teachers will set homework that is matched to student ability
- Open-ended tasks will be supported by the classroom program
- All homework activities will be assessed with feedback and support provided by teachers
- Students in Grade 5 and 6 will be supported to use homework diaries to develop organisational skills

PREP

- reading activities to, with and by parents
- news : practice a few sentences about the topic to share with class
- learn to read Most Used 100 words (M100W)

GRADE 1 – 2

- reading activities to, with and by parents
- spelling activities
- structured speaking and listening tasks set by the teacher to be completed at home

GRADE 3-4

- reading activities to, with and by parents
- simple rehearsal tasks associated with classroom activities
- gathering of additional information or materials
- spelling
- school apps available on iPads
- times tables
- homework will generally not exceed 20 minutes per day and will not be set on weekends or during holiday periods
- use of weekly diary to record reading and any other parent /teacher communication

GRADE 5 – 6

- reading on a daily basis
- tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, essays and research. Homework will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day.
- use of technology to complete or practise classroom topics
- use of weekly diary
- it is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.

OLA's Homework Policy make allowances for individual differences. The teachers would occasionally expect the children to spend time of an evening finishing work or following up lines of inquiries that have developed at school.

Hints for Parents to Give Assistance

1. Know what is expected of your child regarding homework. If you have a query, discuss the matter with the teacher concerned.
2. Make homework time as pleasant as you can. Provide a work area away from the TV. Ensure that it is quiet.
3. Try to establish a regular routine.
4. Give positive assistance. Be encouraging and interested.

The Best Homework

Some of the **home** work that really makes a difference:

- Lots and lots of family conversation – story-telling, jokes, discussions about everything.
- Shared bedtime stories with family members reading to the children.
- Private reading in bed before lights out.

- Family games, activities and hobbies.
- Regular visits to the local library.
- Outings to all kinds of places of social, historic or nature interest.
- The kind of imaginative play that comes naturally to children of all ages.

EVALUATION

- This Policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four year review cycle.