



# HOMWORK POLICY

## RATIONALE

A review of studies into the effects of homework has shown that the correlation between homework and student achievement is weak from Grades Prep to 6 (Cooper, Robinson & Patall, Review of Educational Research, 2006). However, for early years students a strong benefit is gained from home reading. For older primary students, in addition to daily reading, the best outcomes are when homework is directly related to or an extension of classroom learning.

Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. It enables parents/guardians to develop an awareness of classroom practice and expectations and allows them to be actively involved in their child's learning. The homework set should be appropriate to each child's skill level and age.

## AIMS

- To enable parents to play an active role in the child's learning and understand what is taking place at school
- To encourage children to take responsibility for on-going learning
- To develop, reinforce and practise skills to support classroom learning
- To develop the child's organisational and time management skills
- To establish a home study routine

## IMPLEMENTATION

- The school's homework policy will be distributed to parents (via school website) at the commencement of each school year.
- Classroom teachers will set homework appropriate to children's age and skill level.
- Each set task must be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum.

**Early Years (Foundation)** Homework will consist of:

- daily reading to, with and by parents/caregivers or older siblings
- gathering information and/or materials for Show & Tell
- learning to read high frequency words
- oral counting and basic maths games
- homework should not exceed 30 minutes per day

**Early Years (Year 1 - 2)** Homework will consist of:

- daily reading to, with and by parents/caregivers or older siblings
- gathering information and/or materials for Show & Tell and the Big Write
- learning to read high frequency words
- Athletics tasks
- homework should not exceed 30 minutes per day

**Early Years (Year 3 - 4)** Homework will consist of:

- a combination of independent reading and reading together with parents/caregivers. tasks such as continuation of classroom work, talking about the Big Write, projects and assignments, essays and research
- Athletics tasks
- homework should not exceed 30 minutes per day

**Middle Years (Years 5 - 6)** Homework will consist of:

- independent reading on a daily basis
- tasks such as continuation of classroom work, talking about the Big Write, projects and assignments, essays and research

- Mathletics tasks
- homework should not exceed 45 minutes per day It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.

## EVALUATION

This policy was reviewed and ratified as part of the annual cycle of policy reviews.

This policy was ratified at WHPS School Council meeting on August 2016 and is due for review May 2020.