



Homework Policy

Rationale

The main focus of any meaningful homework should always be to support higher levels of student achievement by providing students with more opportunities and time to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school.

Homework can also further school-home relationships and can assist in keeping parents informed about the student's learning program and progress. It should be noted that preparation of students for the time commitment of homework anticipated in years to come is not, in itself, a reasonable basis for setting homework.

Purpose

Homework is:

- Used to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes
- Part of a developmental learning program that is responsive to individual needs, clearly relevant and supported by classroom practice
- Disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline
- To support the development of the student's independence as a learner
- To further the partnership between school and home
- To encourage independent work by students with minimal levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student
- In the main it will consist of consolidation, completion of set tasks and research where appropriate.

Guidelines

- Parents may choose for their child to do less homework than suggested, however this is to be done in consultation with the teacher.
- Preparation and organisational tasks in readiness for the next school day should be routine for all children. These tasks are included within the time allocation guidelines.
- Each teacher will have a particular system (eg, signing by parents, due date, etc.) that will be communicated to parents.
- The following is a guide to the types of homework likely to be provided at Moorine Rock Primary School. Parents should refer to each teacher's individual guide.

Time Allocation per Night - Monday to Thursday						
Kindergarten	Pre Primary	Year 1	Years 2	Years 4	Year 5	Year 6
Nil	10 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes	30 minutes	30 minutes

Years P-2

- Home reading of teacher provided books.
- Home reading of individual choice books
- Learning of Spelling Word Lists if needed.

Years 3-6

- Home reading of teacher provided books.
- Home reading of individual choice books
- Mental mathematics activities reinforcing number combinations and processes.
- Finishing off class work not completed during the school day.
- Research to support class work or study projects.
- Weekly assignments, reinforcing mathematics and/or language concepts currently being taught in class.

Parent's Role

- Children need the opportunity to play and relax after school.
- Set up a homework survival kit. This enables homework to begin immediately and not have time wasted searching for pencils etc.
- Homework is best done at a quiet time set aside for homework completion.
- Ask your child to explain what he/she is doing for homework.
- Praise your child. It is easy to criticise your child when homework is not done. It is a lot harder to give applause for homework completed. It is important to remember that your words of praise, more than anything else, will motivate your child to do his/her best. "A Parent's Role is not Teacher; it is Coach and Cheer Squad."

Conclusion

Homework should be a positive experience for children and parents, aimed at building work ethic and enhancing the extent to which a child benefits from the real life learning and the school's learning experience.