



Moorine Rock Primary School

HOMEWORK POLICY

Revised June 2022

RATIONALE

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. Students moving into high school are better placed when they have well developed study skills.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Homework should:

1. support the development of the student's independence as a life-long learner;
2. further the partnership between school and home;
3. avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student;
4. be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational, cultural and employment pursuits relevant to the student's age, development and educational aspirations;
5. be balanced across learning areas so as to avoid stress and overload;
6. be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through the upper primary years and sustained through the secondary years;
7. be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning area requirements;
8. only be used to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes;
9. 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; and
10. be disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline.

Taken from Homework K-12 Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Guidelines

Time Commitment

Teachers will outline their expectations in terms of time commitments for particular tasks at their parent/teacher meeting early in the school year.

Parents' Role

Assist with allocating and reinforcing a scheduled time for homework

- Provide a suitable space to limit distractions
- Maintain resources required - pencils, pens, scissors
- Discuss the homework requirements with their child
- Check and sign the Communication Diary
- Praise, encourage and provide assistance as required
- Insist on and support an appropriate level of independence and responsibility while homework is being completed
- Resist taking responsibility for homework tasks
- Communicate with the class teacher should concerns arise
- Avoid coercion, bribery and arguments - see the teacher for alternative strategies to motivate your child if required

Teacher's Role

- Provide appropriate homework for students in the class on a regular basis – at least once per fortnight
- Provide students and families with due dates for homework

- Provide appropriate information to ensure homework can be completed
- Mark and return all homework received to ensure students can see their achievements

EXPECTATIONS

The following is a guide to the types of homework likely to be provided at Moorine Rock Primary School.

Kindergarten & Pre-primary

There will be no formal work set at the Kindergarten level. However, news telling tasks may require some parent support. Home reading and sight words are introduced to the Pre-primary students. Some suggestions to support your child's learning at home include:

- Read to your child daily
- Count things whenever an interesting opportunity allows
- Allow you child to help with cooking
- Take an interest in things your child brings home and talks about from school
- Have stationery available for your child to use
- Encourage running, climbing, balancing, ball play and getting dirty

Years 1 & 2

Homework in these early years should be limited to short tasks. These should form the basis of a positive opportunity for parents and children to enjoy learning together. Examples of appropriate homework tasks in this area are:

- Phonics, spelling and word recognition
- Nightly oral reading, reading for pleasure, adults reading to children
- Discussing science, history, geography activities with your child
- Practice and reinforcement of number facts as appropriate
- Other activities may be given to consolidate classroom work as required

Years 3-6

In these years of schooling, homework should provide children with practice and reinforcement opportunities and introduce them to the process of investigating and researching independently. Examples of appropriate homework tasks in this area are:

- Reading for pleasure
- Reading to reinforce and practice fluency, accuracy, comprehension and vocabulary
- Practice mathematics taught in class
- Journal writing
- Learning of spelling words
- Completing of classwork
- Simple projects

Advice for Parents:

- Children need the opportunity to play and relax after school
- Homework is best done at a quiet time set aside for homework completion
- Completing homework in front of the television or with direct access to social media (Facebook & mobile phones) is not recommended
- Take a keen interest in your child's work and ask them to explain what they are completing for homework
- Students who take holidays during the school term may not be provided with extra homework to complete while they are away. Provision of such work will be at the discretion of the teacher concerned.

This policy has been endorsed by the School Council and school staff as a means of ensuring that the focus of students, remains one of academic success.

Endorsed by Council 23rd June 2022