



HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

RATIONALE:

Pingelly Primary School's homework policy is reflective of the Department of Education's 'Homework Guidelines 2014' and is consistently applied, monitored and reviewed across all classrooms within the school. It takes into account the needs of the students & their phase of development.

It supports our goals of improving literacy and numeracy and extending the time available during the day for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. This policy also acknowledges children need reasonable time for family, recreational and cultural activities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

It is expected that homework will relate directly to the learning and teaching programs appropriate to the needs of students.

Preparation of students for the time commitment of homework anticipated in years to come is not, in itself, a reasonable basis for setting homework.

It is also acknowledged that there are some learning programs and situations where it may be determined that homework is not useful or appropriate.

GUIDELINES

Homework activities should:

- provide a purposeful learning experience to reinforce and consolidate work done in class
- be appropriate for the age and abilities of the students
- be clearly communicated to students
- be marked promptly
- encourage students to take responsibility for their learning
- take into account students' other commitments and responsibilities
- not disadvantage students who do not have access to technology at home
- support the development of the student's independence as a learner;
- further the partnership between school and home;
- avoid dependence on parental assistance or resources not readily available to the student;
- be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning area requirements; and
- be disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline.

TIME GUIDELINES

Kindergarten & Pre-primary: No formal homework is set in Kindergarten.

Years 1 and 2: approximately 10 to 20 minutes each night (ie. 50 - 100 mins each week), which may include home reading.

Years 3 - 6: approximately 20 to 30 minutes each night (ie. 100 - 150 mins each week), which may include home reading.

NOTE: These times provide a guide as to the amount of Homework set and provide an average across the week.

EXPECTATIONS

Parents and caregivers can help by

- Being aware of the classroom expectations
- Assisting your child to plan his/her homework times
- Providing a comfortable, well lit study area reasonably free of distractions
- Encouraging effort and praising achievement
- Expecting independent effort (ie not doing homework for your child)
- Communicating with the teacher as soon as possible if your child needs significant assistance from you to complete homework tasks, has difficulties or spends more time than is indicated within the homework policy
- communicating with their children about news items or television shows, allowing them to practise articulating and supporting a point of view

Teachers can help by:

- explaining to students and their parents/caregivers the purpose and benefits of homework
- ensuring students and parents/caregivers are aware of the school's homework policy
- providing quality homework activities related to classwork
- setting a suitable amount of relevant homework which is appropriate to the ability of each student
- ensuring that students are aware of what is expected of them, and how their work will be assessed
- giving students sufficient time to complete their homework, taking into account, as far as possible, completing home obligations and extracurricular activities and homework set by other teachers
- marking homework promptly and appropriately, maintaining homework records and providing feedback to students and parents or caregivers
- alerting parents/caregivers of any developing problems concerning their children's homework and suggesting strategies that they can use to assist their children with their homework
- communicating in writing to parents/caregivers about the homework routine and have a communication network available, e.g. use a homework book or diary in which homework is written and parents sign or write comments if necessary.
- not setting new work which requires direct instruction
- contacting parents when homework is repeatedly not completed or handed in

Students can help by:

- being aware of the importance of homework
- being aware of their school's homework policy
- completing homework and submitting it within the given time frame
- alerting parents or caregivers to homework expectations
- seeking assistance from teachers and parents or caregivers when difficulties arise
- showing their homework to their parents or caregivers
- ensuring homework is of a high standard
- organising their time to ensure that sufficient time is given to quality homework within set deadlines.

ENDORSEMENT BY SCHOOL COUNCIL:

DATE:

CHAIRPERSON: