

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION DOCUMENT

Homework

Introduction

At Kariong Mountains High School we believe that homework is part of the learning process and as such is a valuable part of lifelong education.

Homework can be vital part of the home/school partnership which supports young people as they learn. Homework is supported by the NSW Department of Education and Training in its Policy release of August 2000.

The link to the DoE policy can be found below:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2002-0003#>

The Purpose of Homework

Homework

- is a valuable part of schooling
- allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class
- provides training for students in planning and organising time
- develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources
- establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline which will serve students for the rest of their lives through the development of time management skills
- strengthens home-school links
- reaffirms the role of parents and caregivers as partners in education
- provides parents and caregivers with insight into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their children
- provides opportunities to utilise technology at home. However, students without access to technology should not be penalised or disadvantaged.

General Principles

Homework is most beneficial when

- it reinforces and extends class work and consolidates basic skills and knowledge
- it is challenging and purposeful, but not so demanding that it has adverse effects on the student's motivation
- parents or caregivers are involved in the formulation and implementation of the school's homework policy
- students take responsibility for their homework, supported by their parents and caregivers
- it is well coordinated and teacher expectations are well communicated
- it is set on a regular basis and establishes a routine of home study
- teachers set suitable amounts of homework which are varies and at an appropriate level considering the age, stage of schooling and capabilities of the students
- it takes into account students' home responsibilities and extracurricular activities such as clubs, sport and part-time employment
- it is marked promptly and accurately
- feedback and follow-up are provided regularly to students
- it develops and extends the core learning skills of inquiry and independent study.

Expectations

Parents and Caregivers can help by

- taking an active interest in and encouragement of homework
- ensuring that there is time set aside for homework with regard to limits and routines
- encouraging and supporting students to complete homework
- providing where possible, a dedicated place and desk for homework and study without distractions
- encouraging their children to read and take an interest in current events
- assisting teachers to monitor homework by signing completed work if requested and being aware of the amount of homework set

- communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to the homework
- alerting the school to any domestic or extracurricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or corrected.

Teachers Can Help By

- explaining to their students and their parents or caregivers the purpose and benefits of homework
- ensuring students and parents or caregivers are aware of the school's homework policy
- providing quality homework activities related to class work
- 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 is to be assessed
- giving students sufficient time to complete their homework, taking into account, as far as possible, competing 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 or caregivers to any developing problems concerning their child's homework and suggesting strategies that they can use to assist their children with their homework.

Students Can Help By

- being aware of the importance of homework
- completing homework 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 meets the expected standards of quality
- organising their time to ensure that sufficient time is given within the set deadlines
- initiating their own homework e.g. making summaries, reading novels.

Recommended Hours

Following are the recommended weekly hours for study and homework for each Stage. For Stage 6, it will be dependent on the pattern of study the student is undertaking.

Stage 4 – 1 to 2 hours

Stage 5 – 2 to 3 hours

Stage 6 – 4 to 5 hours.