



Homework Policy

Rationale

At Milperra Public School we believe that homework is a valuable part of schooling. It provides opportunities to practise skills, review content and deepen understanding of concepts learned. Homework can also assist students to develop self-regulation processes, such as goal-setting, time management and study skills. Homework also supports school-home relationships through connecting families with the learning of their children.

We believe that the setting of homework needs to take into consideration the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, sport and recreation and cultural pursuits.

Principles

Homework should:

- only be used to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes;
- complement and reinforce classroom learning and teaching programmes and be appropriate to the needs of the students;
- support the development of the student's independence as a learner;
- strengthen the partnership between school and home;
- avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student;
- be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational, cultural and employment pursuits relevant to the student's age, development and educational aspirations;
- be balanced across learning areas so as to avoid stress and overload;
- be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning area requirements;
- 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;
- be disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline; and
- be positively encouraged by staff through recognition and rewards.

Responsibilities of Teachers

- be aware of the school's homework policy and ensure it is implemented and followed;
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy;
- clearly communicate their expectations for homework to parents and students at the beginning of each year;
- ensure homework that is set is understood and is able to be completed by the student;
- positively motivate students to complete their homework;
- if required, liaise with support staff in order to develop suitable homework tasks;
- refrain from setting tasks for homework that will be used for assessment;
- ensure that students are given enough time to complete set homework;
- provide opportunities for students to discuss any difficulties they are experiencing with homework;
- monitor the homework practices of their students;
- help students to develop organisational and time-management skills;
- Sight homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support;
- contact parents/caregivers to discuss any concerns regarding homework;
- be mindful of circumstances that may prevent a child from completing homework tasks;
- seek feedback from students about set homework tasks, including frustration levels;
- setting homework that is varied, challenging, meaningful and directly related to class work and appropriate to students' learning needs; and
- report on students' commitment to homework tasks throughout each semester.

Teachers are not required to set homework over holiday periods or at times where students are taken on in-term vacation breaks.



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Responsibilities of Students

- be aware of the school's homework policy;
- demonstrate responsibility by caring for materials required to complete homework, such as books, pens and pencils;
- submit any completed homework, according to the instructions of the teacher, when expected;
- discuss any difficulties they are experiencing with homework with their teacher/s; and
- follow up on comments made by their teacher.

Responsibilities of Parents

- be aware of and support the school's homework policy;
- encourage their child to complete homework
- discuss homework activities and expectations with their children in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences;
- providing a work area (with resources e.g. pens, pencils, ruler, eraser etc.) and a supportive environment (e.g. free from major distractions), together with a routine that fits with the family;
- support your child to develop an age-appropriate level of independence in completing homework;
- encourage, praise and provide guidance and support as is required; and
- contact the relevant teacher/s to discuss any concerns about homework.

Guidelines

Homework can be completed daily or over a weekly or fortnightly period. The table below provides suggested time to be allocated to homework.

Year Level	Approximate Time per night
Kindergarten	10-15 mins
Year 1	15-20 mins
Year 2	20-30 mins
Year 3	25-35 mins
Year 4	25-35 mins
Year 5	30-40 mins
Year 6	30-40 mins

If your child is not completing the daily homework tasks in the suggested timeframe, please let your child's teacher know so adjustments can be made.

Homework options in Kindergarten to Year 2 may include the following:

- High frequency words
- Phonics
- Spelling
- Oral language tasks
- Comprehension
- Basic number skills and facts
- Online learning tasks

Homework options in Year 3 to Year 6 may include the following:

- Phonics/Spelling
- Maths fluency/mentals and problem-solving
- Projects



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- Literacy tasks such as comprehension
- Oral language tasks
- Online learning tasks

The above lists are not exhaustive.

For the purpose of this policy document, it is important to note that at Milperra Public School we expect that regular home reading will form part of students' daily routine and is considered an essential home activity.

Staff/P&C Review: March 2023

Next Review: 2025