



Mount Pritchard Public School

Deeds Not Words

Homework Policy 2015

Policy statement

The NSW Department of Education and Communities' policy website specifies that each school is to develop a Homework Policy. A school's Homework Policy should be:

- relevant to the needs of students
- developed in consultation with key school community stakeholders including teachers, parents/caregivers and students.
- communicated to staff, students, parents/caregivers, particularly at the time of student enrolment.

In developing their Homework Policy, schools should be aware that while the Policy itself is compulsory, the setting of homework and any indicative time allocations across year levels are not.

This approach to Homework Policy is in line with a number of factors:

- community expectations about homework are variable
- research regarding the value of homework is inconclusive
- schools are best placed to make decisions about homework in consultation with their communities

. Research indicates that student learning may be enhanced if homework is:

- appropriate for each student's age and ability
- relevant to each student's needs
- purposeful and designed to meet specific learning goals
- varied and challenging, but achievable
- built on knowledge, skills and understanding developed in class
- clearly stated and requirements made explicit during class time
- supported by teacher strategies for students having difficulties with homework.

Homework tasks should be assigned by teachers with a specific, explicit learning purpose. On completion, teachers should acknowledge student effort and provide feedback related to student learning.

Age-specific considerations

Primary schools

- While there is little conclusive evidence of the learning benefits of homework in infants and primary schools, quality homework in these stages may help students to develop effective study habits and broaden their understandings and skills across the curriculum.

Homework for Kindergarten-Year 2

- In general, students are not expected to complete formal homework in Kindergarten. Students may be given books to read at home, as appropriate.
- In Years 1 and 2 some formal homework may be set. For example, students might be asked to read and write, learn words for spelling and complete some mathematical activities.

Homework in Years 3-6

- may be varied and students may be expected to work more independently. Students could be encouraged to read and practise mathematical concepts learnt at school. Other homework may also be set across areas of the curriculum.

Homework Guidelines at MPPS.

ES1- Reading every night approximately 10 minutes and optional homework sheet

Stage 1- Reading every night approximately 10-15 minutes with an optional fortnightly homework sheet.

Stage 2-reading every night approximately 15-20 minutes/ revise mathematical number tables and optional research task to be presented to the class.

Stage 3 Reading 20+ minutes each night/unfinished school work and optional research task.

All homework set should be suited to the students learning and require minimal or no parent assistance.

Students will not be punished for not completing set homework.