

HOPE SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

PURPOSE:

- To extend classroom learning
- To establish desirable time management practices for children.
- To reinforce the shared responsibility for a child's education, ie the partnership between child, school and home.
- To acknowledge and value the current educational practices within family routines.

GUIDELINES:

- Homework should provide students with the opportunity to reinforce and practise skills learned at school.
- Homework should encourage students to improve their organisational skills.
- Homework should give students the opportunity to complete unfinished work.
- Homework should give parents an opportunity to assist children's learning.
- Homework should reflect current educational research findings.

PARENTAL ROLE:

- Be positive and encouraging - homework should not be an onerous task!
- Show an interest by asking about the work
- Get involved in solving some of the problems - you ARE allowed to GUIDE!
- Assist your child with the organisation of their time by:
 - ⇒ Helping them decide which exercise to do on which night (Do the worst first!)
 - ⇒ Help them allocate a time, eg 30 minutes, then have a break, and return if required, so that the students pace themselves
 - ⇒ Don't leave it until the last minute

By showing an interest in the work, your children know that you're interested in what they do at school too, and they become more motivated to learn.

Please feel free to contact us during school hours about any of the homework tasks set.



IMPLEMENTATION – PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework will be given to Years K1 to 6 each week. The content of the homework will vary depending on the age and stage of the child, and individual teachers will be responsible for giving appropriate homework.

Children in Preschool will be given suitable activities when appropriate

All homework should be acknowledged by an adult and returned as requested by the teacher. If the teacher decides that the standard of completed homework is inadequate, the student will be given an opportunity to improve their work before behaviour management processes take place

Spelling

Years K-6 will usually have a list of words to either read or learn to spell. These words will be selected from the spelling pattern for the week, the student's personal writing, the current unit of study, and other spelling lists. The children will be tested on these words in class.

Reading

Primary aged children need to read and be read to often. Students in Years 1 to 3 are heard by the teacher during the week during class lessons. The growth and progress in reading is affected by the opportunities children have to practise. Take-home readers are selected to match the student's reading ability. Children can change these home readers as often as they want, but parents are expected to listen to children read at least once during the week.

Children in years 3 and above are often reading at an independent level. All students read daily (during Silent or Guided Reading time), either alone, or as part of a group. Sometimes students select their own books to take home and sometimes these books are selected by a teacher to match reading skills; other times they have been selected to provide diversity in reading material usually selected by the student.

Other homework

Teachers may ask the children to find out some information at home, to complete a task not finished at school, or to do some additional practice of skills taught in the classroom.

We also acknowledge that children are doing lots of less traditional “homework” activities – for example learning additional language, helping with household chores, playing strategy based games, reading for fun, sports clubs, cultural visits, and after school clubs. Recent research has shown that such experiences enrich a child’s education more than more traditional homework tasks, so we would encourage you to recognise the value of these.

Time Guidelines

Year K1, 2 5 to 10 minutes a day

Years 3, 4, 5, 6 Approximately one and a half hours a week



IMPLEMENTATION – HIGH SCHOOL

- 1) The High School timetable is split into 30 fifty minute lessons a week, and different subjects have different lesson allocations. The frequency of homework tasks will depend on this lesson allocation
- 2) Homework tasks be set, on average, once every four lessons for each subject. Over a two week period, a student in Year 8 should therefore expect two homework tasks in each of Maths, English, Science and Social Studies, with one homework task for Music, Christian Perspectives, Art and Design Technology.
- 3) If homework tasks are set more frequently than this, then the length of the task would usually be reduced.
- 4) Students will be given an appropriate time frame, usually a minimum of 3 school days, to complete a homework task
- 5) All homework tasks will be set in the homework diary
- 6) All completed homework tasks should be acknowledged by the teacher
- 7) Parents should sign their child's diary on a weekly basis to acknowledge their involvement in supporting homework. The diary should also be used for parents to communicate with teachers regarding both homework and classwork.
- 8) If the teacher decides that the standard of completed homework is inadequate, the student will be given an opportunity to improve their work before behaviour management processes take place

Time Guidelines

Year 7 - 9	Each homework task should last between 30 and 45 minutes
Year 10 - 11	Each homework task should last between 45 minutes and 1 hour
Year 12 and 13	Each homework task should last between 1 hour and 2 hour