



Rationale

Homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, pattern behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning. The setting of homework takes into account the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle.

This includes sufficient time for family, recreation, cultural pursuits and employment where appropriate.

Objectives

At Payne Road State School Homework is most effective when it:

- is clearly related to class work
- is appropriate to particular years of schooling
- is varied and differentiated to individual learning needs
- consolidates, revises and/or applies students' classroom learning
- develops students' independence as a learner through extension activities such as investigating, researching, writing, designing, making
- assists students to prepare for upcoming classroom learning, such as collecting relevant materials and information, completing surveys and audits
- is monitored by the teacher.

Types of Homework

Homework can engage students in independent learning to complement work undertaken in class through:

- revision and critical reflection to consolidate learning (practising for mastery)
- applying knowledge and skills in new contexts (a topic of interest, an authentic local issue)
- pursuing knowledge individually and imaginatively (investigating, researching, writing, designing, making)
- preparing for forthcoming classroom learning (collecting relevant materials, items, information).

Responsibilities

Principals:

- Develop a school homework policy, in consultation with their school community, particularly the Parents and Citizens' Association.
- Distribute the school homework policy to staff, students, and parents and caregivers, particularly at the time of student enrolment.
- Ensure the homework policy is effectively implemented throughout the school.

Teachers:

- Set homework on a regular basis & clearly communicate the purpose, benefits and expectations of all homework.
- Check homework regularly and provide timely and useful feedback.
- Explicitly teach strategies to develop organisational and time-management skills and providing opportunities to practice these
- Give consideration to student's other academic and personal development activities (school based or other) when setting homework
- Discuss with parents and caregivers any developing problems concerning their child's homework and suggest strategies to assist with their homework

Students:

- Be aware of the school's homework policy & discuss with parents or caregivers homework expectations
- Accept responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- Follow up on comments made by teachers & seek assistance when difficulties arise
- Organise time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment

Parents/ Guardians

- Read to them, talk with them and involve them in tasks that support homework and help them to complete tasks by discussing key questions or directing them to resources
- Support them to by organising time for their learning to occur as part of the family routine.
- Encourage them to read and to take an interest in and discuss what they have read.
- Contact the relevant teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to the homework.

Homework in Prep

In the Early Phase of Learning (Prep to Year 1) many activities at home or in play can assist children to develop literacy, numeracy and problem-solving skills.

Homework tasks may include:

- daily reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or other family members
- linking concepts with familiar activities such as shopping, preparation of food, local environment and family outings
- conversations about what is happening at school
- preparation for oral presentations
- Opportunities to write for meaningful purposes including spelling practise.

In the Prep Year, generally students will not be set homework except for home readers.

Homework in Years 1-3

In Years 1, 2 and 3, set homework could be up to but generally not more than 1 hour per week.

Sample weekly homework set for Years 1-3:

- Home reading at easy to instructional level (92%+ accuracy) for the student recorded in Reading Log
- Half to one page revision of child spelling list – activities to reinforce learning of spelling and language conventions from class work.
- Half – one page of Maths revising concepts learned in class during the week.
- Preparation for oral presentation

Homework in Years 4-6

In the Middle Phase (Year 4 to Year 6) some homework can be completed daily or over a weekly or fortnightly period and may:

- include daily independent reading
- be coordinated across different subject areas
- include extension of class work, projects and research.
- Homework in Year 4 and Year 6 could be up to but generally not more than 2-3 hours per week.

Sample weekly homework set for Year 4-6:

- Home reading at easy to instructional level for the student recorded in Reading Log
- One page revision of child spelling list – activities to reinforce learning of spelling and writing.
- One page of Maths revising concepts learned in class during the week.
- Negotiated project work / Homework grid
- Learning area specific research

Consequences for non-compliance

Students are expected to complete the homework set by teachers within the bounds of this policy. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to support this process at home. A teacher at a State school may require a student of the school to complete homework.

Consequences for non-compliance may be used in accordance with the school's **Responsible Behaviour Plan**.

Reference:

Department of Education (May 2018) **Homework** <https://education.qld.gov.au/curriculum/Documents/homework.pdf>