



Thomastown Meadows Primary School

Homework policy

HONESTY EMPATHY RESPECT

Purpose

Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and self management skills, providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning and by improving the partnership between students, teachers and parents.

Scope

- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop a responsibility for self learning.
- To compliment and extend the goals and objectives of the classroom program.
- To improve the partnership between students, teachers and parents.

Policy

Parents will be informed in writing regarding homework expectation at the start of each school year. Expectations should include suggestions for time spent on homework, when it will be distributed and when it is expected that it will be returned. Section co-ordinators will be responsible for organising this with their teams. This can best be done at the initial Parent/Teacher interviews. Parents are therefore encouraged to attend and make themselves familiar with homework expectations.

- A checklist of all homework distributed, plus timeline for completion should be recorded by the teacher. In the 5/6 area students enter requirements into their diaries.
- All homework should be followed up in the classroom, eg either handed in for teacher feedback, class correction and/or self correction.
- In the case of students constantly not handing in homework, teachers should communicate their concerns to parents either in writing, by phone or during Parent/Teacher interviews.
- Guidelines for setting homework include:
Prep to 2 – no more than 20 minutes per night
Grades 3/4 – no more than 30 minutes per night
Grades 5/6 – no more than 30 minutes per night
- Homework should reflect the needs of students from a diverse range of backgrounds and abilities. It should be modified if necessary to cater for Integration and Special Needs students.
- Realistic tasks that can be completed with a minimum amount of stress should be distributed. Clear instructions and expectations should help the students to understand what they will be required to do.
- Homework should be interesting and motivating.
- Homework is a partnership between the home and school. Parents have an obligation and are encouraged to become involved in the work or reading tasks their children bring home. The role of parents in homework is that of critical friend, encourager and someone who supervises the task requiring completion.
- Learning Improvement Plans will be used to document homework requirements for some students (see Compendium Guidelines).

THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE TYPE OF TASKS THAT MAY BE GIVEN AS HOMEWORK:

7-9-

THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE TYPE OF TASKS THAT MAY BE GIVEN AS HOMEWORK: PREP

Take home reading, parents asked to sign
Reading to, with and by the child
Bringing items from home related to classroom work eg: photographs, books
Revision of alphabet/sounds
Work sheets missed by children when absent

Revision of number recognition
Revision of sight vocabulary and sentences

YEAR THREE/FOUR

Homework book – extra reinforcement for these in need or who show interest
Take home reading, parents asked to sign
Word list/spelling
Number facts-tables
Maths share task completed with family assistance
Appropriate research assignments

Completion of unfinished work
Media watch (directed observation at home of t.v. news reports, newspapers or radio items of interest to bring back to school following days).
Projects or assessment tasks
Literature assignments

YEAR ONE/TWO

Take home reading, parents asked to sign
Word list/spelling list (Look, Cover, Write and Check).
Revision work sheet – consolidation of work done in class
Completion of unfinished work
Maths share

YEAR FIVE/SIX

Use of diary to record homework/dates
Take home reading
Word list/spelling
Number facts-tables, problem solving
Completion of unfinished work eg: headings, borders, science experiments
Visit local library for research
Media watch (directed observation at home of t.v. news reports, newspapers or radio items of interest to bring back to school).

Policy review

Policy written updated	School Council approved	Review date	Responsibility
September 2005	/ /		Principal