



# HOMework POLICY

## **Purpose of this policy**

- To ensure Northcote Primary School community understand and adheres to the Northcote Primary approach to homework

## **Rationale**

Homework should be a positive experience for students and parents, aimed at building work ethic and enhancing the benefit students derive from school learning.

Homework helps students by:

- Complementing and reinforcing the learning outcomes set in the classroom
- Supporting the development of the students independence in learning
- Fostering lifelong learning and study habits
- Connecting families with the learning of their children

## **Statements of Beliefs**

The NPS community (students, principal, teachers, school council, parents / carers) share the value of homework and support engagement of the student in learning at home. The current evidence and research shows the quality homework has a positive effect on learning (DET School Policy and Advisory Guide 2018).

Homework set by the class teachers:

- May include online programs (Reading Eggs/Mathletics/Hour of Code), home reading and multiplication tables
- completed by the student as part of their engagement with school life
- gives students choice among homework tasks.
- will be interesting, challenging and where appropriate open ended
- gives the student opportunities to practice skills and deepen understanding of concepts learned in class.
- is the responsibility of the student supported by parents / carers
- involves parents / carers throughout their child's education at NPS
- must relate to what is taught in the classroom
- is tailored to the individual students learning styles, developmental and personal abilities
- takes into consideration the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle (sufficient time for family, sport and recreation, cultural pursuits)

## **Implementation**

1. Classroom teachers set homework and guides students on the level that suits the children's ability.
2. Teachers will explain the homework requirements to children in class.
3. Variation in the set homework can be negotiated with the class teacher based on the individual student's circumstances.
4. Homework expectations will be communicated with parents / carers prior to homework being sent out in Term 1. This will be reinforced throughout the year. Any change in homework procedures throughout the year will be communicated with parents/carers prior to the change.
5. Students are given their homework on a regular basis with definitive timelines for completion.
6. Parents / carers provide a quiet space for homework, with all the requisite resources.
7. Parents can discuss any issues and concerns with homework set or completion with the class teacher.
8. Teacher monitor and provide feedback.

Giving time estimates of homework is an imprecise measure as time spent will depend on the quality of the work, the abilities and expectations of the student.

As a guide:

Prep and year 1: up to 15 minutes, weekdays

Year 2, 3 & 4: up to 20 – 30 minutes, weekdays

Year 5 & 6: up to 40 minutes, weekdays, and minimal weekends to complete activities.

### **Roles and responsibilities:**

Students can help with homework by:

- Being aware of the homework policy
- Taking responsibility for completion of homework within set time frames
- Following up on comments made by teachers
- Seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- Organising their time to manage set homework

Parents / Carers can help the student by:

- Developing a positive approach to homework
- Involving them in learning opportunities in everyday household and family routines
- Talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- Discussing homework with their child and negotiating the assistance required and time when homework will be completed
- Assisting the student with a space that gives the child a place to focus and concentrate

### **Evaluation**

- *This policy will be reviewed as part of Northcote Primary School's three-year review cycle, or if circumstance require guidelines change.*

**NPS School Council ratified this policy on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

References: DET

Policy and Advisory guide on homework