

# HOMWORK POLICY

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## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is so Parkwood Green Primary School can ensure a consistent approach is adopted across the school which promotes practise of concepts students learn in classrooms.

The purpose of homework at a primary level is to reinforce skills and habits of learning and encourage students to be responsible for their own learning.

Implementation of this policy will allow students, teachers and parents to participate in a homework program that will provide opportunities for students to:

- Regularly reinforce classroom learning
- Develop study habits, organisational and time-management skills
- Take increasing levels of responsibility for their own learning.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting homework.

## POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Homework benefits students by complimenting classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Homework should be:

- Balanced in terms of demands between study and recreational, family and cultural activities
- Purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- Assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided to students.
- Scaffolded and appropriate to each students level of development
- Scheduled and communicated in a timely manner to parents

At Parkwood Green PS we offer Homework to:

- Establish routine and self-directed learning at all grade levels
- Revisit content and practice basic skill linked to the classroom learning
- Provide practice of skill in order for the student to become faster and more proficient
- For parents to support the learning of the students and develop the home school partnership
- Allocate time to the practice of the skill and learning content

All students are to be allocated homework that encourages the practising of skills taught in the class.

- Reading will form part of each child's homework routine, levelled text for reading practice, and a variety of books for reading enjoyment.
- Regular Numeracy written problems/number fact practice will form part of the Homework for students
- Each set task will be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to support the current classroom learning program
- At the completion of homework activities feedback will be provide as to 'what are the next steps' in learning relevant to student's improvement.
- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.

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## Suggested time allocations for each Sub-school

**Junior and Middle Sub-Schools:** Homework will generally not exceed 20 minutes per day. Weekend and/or holiday homework will be negotiated by the Sub-School.

**Senior Sub-School (Years 4,5,6):** Homework will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day, and should be coordinated between home and school through the Home Study Timetable and a student Homework Log. Homework may be set during weekends and school vacations if appropriate

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

### Related School Policies

- Code of Conduct Policy
- Curriculum and Student Learning Policy

### Related DET Resources

- [Homework Expectations](#)
- [Homework Guidelines](#)
- [DET homework guidelines for descriptions and examples of each type](#)

### Appendix 1

Homework Guidelines per grade

## EVALUATION

Each year the school will monitor the effectiveness of Homework via the Parent Survey (Homework measure) and improved student learning outcomes in Literacy and Numeracy and from parental feedback during Student/ Parent/ Teacher Conferences. Consultation with the school community is recommended if the Homework Policy changes.

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**At Parkwood Green the Purpose of Homework is to:**

- Establish routine and self-directed learning at all grade levels
- Revisit content and practice basic skill linked to the classroom learning
- Provide practice of skill in order for the student to become faster and more proficient
- For parents to support the learning of the students and develop the home school partnership
- Allocate time to the practice of the skill and learning content
- For students to develop a love of learning

In **Grade Foundation** we expect:

**Reading**

Home Reading is reading practice using the texts (1-5) brought home in the reading satchel. This is to be done every day. Complete the Home Reading Journal.

Reading for enjoyment which may include their favourite bedtime story.

**READING EGGS:** [www.readingeggs.com.au](http://www.readingeggs.com.au) Individual based online reading and comprehension program. Passwords and usernames have been handed to students.

**Alphabet Recognition**

Practice naming the upper and lower case letters of the alphabet.

**Handwriting**

Practise letter formation using the sheets collected from school during the parent teacher interviews. Sheets will also be available in classrooms on a weekly basis.

**High Frequency Words**

Practise learning the high frequency words.

**Free Writing**

Writing or drawing responses to family visits, special occasions or weekly social activities.

**Numeracy**

**MATHLETICS:** [www.mathletics.com.au](http://www.mathletics.com.au) Online Numeracy program. Passwords and usernames have been handed to students.

In **Grade One** we expect that:

- Students practise the skills learnt at school independently when at home.
- We encourage students and parents to discuss the activities which will be completed.
- Tasks are recorded into a fortnightly homework log which is monitored by teachers on a regular basis.
- Students have a homework book which is submitted every Monday. The homework log and any other relevant tasks are completed in this book.

The tasks recommended for students to complete are:

**Reading:** Levelled text reading (a number of books will come home in the Home Reading satchel for reading over a week) and online through our new Homework program Reading Eggs.

**Writing:** A list of suggested activities is provided each term for students to write about personal experiences

**Spelling:** Some Word recognition will be part of the weekly homework program for students. Word for learning will come from word investigations and be part of the child's writing.

In **Grade Two** we expect that:

- Students practise the skills learnt at school independently when at home.
- We encourage students and parents to discuss the activities which will be completed
- Students read and are read to every night especially in these years when oral practise is important.
- Students are to record the activities they complete on the monthly calendar, along with any other outside school activities such as family events, swimming classes, dancing etc so the teacher can get an understanding of the child's commitments outside school. This promotes commitment and organisation
- Students hand their **homework book in on Fridays**. Teachers then check the work completed, they have discussions with the students about the activities they completed.

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- Teachers also keep track of who is not completing homework or going on Mathletics and discusses this with those students.

The activities recommended for students to complete are:

**Reading** - Take home/levelled text reading, Reading Eggs

**Writing** - Writing about reading and handwriting practise

**Numeracy** – Mathletics with personalised activities for practice

**Handwriting:** Practising letter formation based on individual needs. Fine motor practise as planned by the teacher for individual students.

**Numeracy:** Mathletics with personalised activities for practice.

## In Grade Three we expect that:

- Student's practising the skills learnt at school independently when at home.
- We encourage students and parents to discuss the activities which will be completed but also remind them that a Reading activity must be completed each night.
- Students are then to record the tasks completed in the homework log and hand their books in each Wednesday.
- Teachers then check the work completed and have discussions with students based around the work completed.

## The activities recommended for students to complete are:

**Reading** - Take home/levelled text reading, Reading Eggs, Tumble books Storyline online and My Online reading.

**Spelling and Word Study** - Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check and Class Spelling activities.

**Writing** - Writing about reading and Handwriting practise

**Numeracy** – Mathletics and Times tables practise

**Inquiry** – Topic investigations

## In Grade Four we expect that:

**Reading:** Reading should be completed daily, as we want students to read for sustained periods. . Students need to be reading appropriate texts that provide practice. These texts are chosen by the teacher for variety and volume.

**Spelling tasks** will be based on spelling words individual students need to learn coming from their writing and our investigations. We are wanting students to practise at home the 5 spelling words they work with at school throughout the week.

## Numeracy:

Numeracy tasks will consist of tasks that are accessible for students at all levels.

A main focus on Numeracy Homework will be on Mathletics and encouraging students to complete individual tasks both in an electronic and written form. Timetable practice falls within number facts practice.

A Homework timetable and diary record Homework.

## In Grade Five and Six we expect that:

**Reading:** Home Reading is very much part of the Year 6 program. Your child should be reading at home every night and they should be reading a novel.

**Spelling or Word Study:** Spelling tasks will be based on spelling words individual students need to learn, theme words, class words from discussions, etc. Students will practise at home the 5 spelling words they work with at school throughout the week. Word Study tasks will be based on areas of investigation that have or may be occurring in the classroom

**Numeracy:** A main focus of Numeracy homework will be on practice of number facts and on Mathletics. We are encouraging students to complete individual tasks and activities set by the teacher before competing in the 'Live Maths' arena.