

Homework Guidelines

RATIONALE

At North Woodvale Primary School, homework caters for the needs of all students and their phase of development. **At North Woodvale we recognise home reading as being the most effective homework program.** Homework can support higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. Homework can be a means of furthering the school-home relationships and can assist in keeping parents informed about the student's learning and progress. Study and revision programs only become important for students preparing for secondary school.

PRINCIPLES

Homework should:

- support the development of the student's independence as a learner
- form part of a developmental learning program that is responsive to individual needs, clearly relevant and supported by classroom practice
- further the partnership between school and home
- avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student
- be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational and family pursuits relevant to the students age and developmental level
- be consistently applied and monitored in a whole school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning requirements

GOAL

North Woodvale Primary will introduce and follow consistent homework practice across the whole school progressively. Teachers will introduce homework to students at their phase of development. Students will be encouraged to complete homework at an independent level.

OBJECTIVES

- **Every child will be encouraged to read regularly at home for enjoyment, practise and fluency. To develop a love of literature, books and words.**

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Teachers, parents and students should work together on providing homework that is realistic and purposeful for the child. Expectations will increase as children move through the phases of development from early childhood to middle childhood.

These guidelines are

- consistent with the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline* and school plans
- developed in consultation with the school staff and endorsed by the school board
- regularly communicated to students and parents via school website.
- supported and implemented by all staff.

Teachers will ensure that all students in their class are given opportunities to:

- take home reading books so they can read regularly and independently for fluency and enjoyment
- revise and practice content covered in class depending on the developmental level of the child
- communicate with or show their parents, what they are learning in class
- have fun and enjoy learning
- positively reinforce participation in homework activities but will not apply consequences when homework tasks are not completed.

Students will:

- Be encouraged to follow the homework expectations of their Year Level and learning needs. Please refer to the Progressive Expectations for each Phase of Development.
- Not be expected to complete homework during break times.

Parents will:

- Provide their child with a quiet, comfortable, supportive environment to read and work independently regularly.
- Assist their child in time management and organisational skills leading to greater independence as they progress through their Primary School years.
- Make homework a positive experience, praise your child for their efforts, give them honest feedback that will help their learning and communicate with the teacher if there are any problems.
- Be accepting of your child's level of development and have realistic expectations that will support the child and their learning.
- Be encouraging when children are making attempts to learn new words and ideas.

CREATING A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

It is important in today's busy world that children are given time to relax, which is balanced with physical activity, chores, reading and revision of learning tasks. Parents should provide a supportive environment at home where all learning is valued and children are given a range of opportunities to explore their talents, interests and capabilities.

GUIDELINES

Year Level	Expectations
PP	Home Reading * Parents read to their child and with their child regularly. * If their child can read listen to them. * Books read at home need to be at an independent level which are two levels below their instructional level to encourage fluency and enjoyment. * Reading should be an enjoyable and positive experience.
One	Home Reading * Parents read to their child and with their child regularly. * If their child can read listen to them. * Books read at home need to be at an independent level which are two levels below their instructional level to encourage fluency and enjoyment. * Reading should be an enjoyable and positive experience. * Students should be progressing through decodable readers * Sight/high frequency words revision
Two	Home Reading * Parents listen to their child read regularly. * Books read at home need to be at an independent level which are two levels below their instructional level to encourage fluency and enjoyment. * Reading should be an enjoyable and positive experience. * Students with parent assistance record pages read. Challenges- * Games or manipulative tasks maybe given to consolidate learning in Mathematics or English.
Three	Home Reading * Parents listen to their child read regularly.

	* Books read at home need to be at an independent level which are two levels below their instructional level to encourage fluency and enjoyment. * Reading should be an enjoyable and positive experience. * <i>Students may begin to read silently for their own enjoyment.</i> * <i>Students become more independent with recording pages read.</i> Challenges- * Independent tasks, games or manipulative tasks to consolidate learning in Mathematics or English. Time Management Student's record in diaries and with assistance creates a weekly planner for their learning tasks.
Four	Home Reading * Books issued to read at home if needed. * Students should reading silently for their own enjoyment. * Parents still listen to their child read regularly. * Students record pages read in their diaries. Challenges- * Independent tasks, games or manipulative tasks to consolidate learning in Mathematics or English. Time Management Student's record in diaries and with assistance creates a weekly planner for their learning tasks.
Five	Home Reading * Books issued to read at home if needed. * Students should reading silently for their own enjoyment. * Parents still listen to their child read regularly. * Students record pages read in their diaries. Challenges- * Independent tasks, games or manipulative tasks to consolidate learning in Mathematics or English. Time Management * Student's record in diaries and with assistance creates a weekly planner for their learning tasks.
Six	Home Reading * Books issued to read at home if needed. * Students should reading silently for their own enjoyment. * Parents still listen to their child read regularly. * Students record pages read in their diaries. Challenges- * Independent tasks, games or manipulative tasks to consolidate learning in Mathematics or English. Time Management * Student's record in diaries and with assistance creates a weekly planner for their learning tasks. Study and Revision * Study ladder – optional

INFORMATION TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS

The North Woodvale Primary School community will be made aware of homework expectations by:

- The Homework Policy on the school website

- Class meeting at the beginning of each year
- In the North Woodvale Primary School newsletter
- Interviews with the classroom teacher
- Diarised homework each week Years 3-6.
- Homework is disassociated from disciplinary action at a school level and teachers will inform parents of any concerns they have in this area.
- Any student recovering from a serious medical condition or unable to attend school for medical reasons will be supported via a negotiation between the class teacher and the caregivers, dependent on the individual circumstances.

**** Teachers are not required to set homework for holiday periods or periods of time when families choose to take holidays during term time.**