

ASHBURY PUBLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Homework Policy

Rationale

Homework is defined as any task assigned by school teachers intended for students to carry out during non-school hours. It is designed to meet specific learning goals.

Homework should reinforce, extend and enrich class learning. It supports the partnership between home and school. It is also intended to assist students to develop independent study habits.

While homework has been extensively researched, the evidence for its effectiveness in the Primary setting is inconclusive. Research demonstrates that schools whose students do homework tend to be more successful; however it is not clear that the homework is the reason for the success. Homework may help to develop a routine for students, promote self-motivated work behaviours and support parental engagement in student work.

The purpose of this policy is to communicate the homework expectations of the school to students, parents, carers and teachers.

Policy Statement

Homework activities at Ashbury Public School should be engaging for students and designed to reinforce, extend and enrich class learning.

Homework tasks should be assigned by teachers with a specific, explicit learning purpose.

Implementation

At the start of each year, class teachers will communicate the homework expectations to parents and carers. The following table summarises the recommended amount of time per day that students should spend on homework tasks including reading.

Grade	Suggested time (including Reading)
Kindergarten	Reading only
Years 1 and 2	10-20 minutes
Years 3 and 4	20-30 minutes
Years 5 and 6	30-40 minutes

Responsibilities

The teacher's role is to:

- ensure that the homework set is purposeful, engaging, appropriate for each student's age and ability and relevant to their learning needs
- communicate homework requirements explicitly to students
- acknowledge student effort and provide feedback related to student learning through regular marking and reviewing of homework

Parents' and carers' roles are to:

- establish routines and a location free of distractions for the completion of homework
- encourage and support their child to complete homework
- communicate any concerns or questions to the child's class teacher about homework

The student's role is to:

- complete homework tasks to the best of their ability
- develop good homework habits and routines
- ask for help from their teacher, parent or carer if they are unsure of homework requirements

The school recognises that students participate in a range of activities and have diverse experiences outside of school hours that may enhance their learning but restrict the time available for the completion of homework. It is therefore important that parents, carers and teachers maintain communication about homework requirements. If parents and carers wish for their child to opt out of homework, they should notify their child's class teacher.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The School Council will review this policy again in 2019 and then every 3 years after that.