



KANGAROO GROUND PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMWORK POLICY

Rationale:

Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Purpose:

- Homework is another opportunity for parents to participate in their child's education. Parents, in partnership with the school, should encourage their children to establish good homework patterns from early primary school.
- Parents should be advised of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and have access to a copy of the school's homework policy upon request.
- Students benefit from completing homework regularly. Homework helps them develop organisational and time-management skills, self discipline, skills in using out-of-school resources and personal responsibility for learning.
- Parents will be notified if students fail to complete homework on a regular basis.

Broad Guidelines:

In primary school, homework should not be seen as a chore.

Homework:

- Homework will enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials;
- Homework in Foundation to Grade 3, will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or older siblings;
- Homework in Grades 4 to 6, may include extension work, projects and assignments, skills practice and research;
- Homework will generally not exceed 30 minutes a day in Foundation to Grade 3 and will generally range from 30 to 45 minutes a day in grades 4 to 6. Homework will not be set during holidays.

Care should be taken to ensure that undue pressure is not placed on students at this level, and that a balance is maintained between the demands of study and recreational pastimes. This can generally be achieved through good organisation and planning.

Types of homework

Homework will:

- be appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- be balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities
- be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- be assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided.



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Types of homework that meet these requirements include providing students with the opportunities to apply new knowledge, or to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills, such as:

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics – memorisation of tables
- practising spelling words
- practising words or phrases learnt in a Language Other Than English
- reading for pleasure
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising physical education skills
- research or discussions

Expectations

Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

- encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation;
- observing and acknowledging their success and asking how their home and class work is progressing;
- encouraging them to set aside regular sessions to read and complete homework;
- setting an example by reading themselves;
- contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any problems their children are having with homework;
- helping them to complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources:
- by encouraging their children to complete homework themselves;
- helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games and engaging in other leisure or recreational activities.

Teachers can help their students by:

- setting regular homework to help students establish a home study routine;
- giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities;
- assessing homework and providing timely and practical feedback and support;
- helping students develop the organisational and time-management skills needed for them to be responsible for their own learning;
- ensuring that parents and caregivers have access to the school's homework policy,
- developing strategies to support parents to become active partners in homework.