

HOMEWORK PROCEDURES

March 2021

Rationale

These Homework Procedures have been written to assist staff, students and parents / carers to understand the school's position in relation to homework and to articulate shared responsibilities.

For the purposes of this document, homework is defined as any school task assigned by the school that is intended for students to carry out during non-school hours to meet specific learning goals.

Research regarding the value of homework, particularly for primary students, is inconclusive. Community expectations about homework also vary between families. Families are consequently offered the opportunity to "opt in" or "opt out" of having their child(ren) complete assigned homework tasks.

The school believes that student learning may be enhanced when homework is:

- appropriate for students' age and ability;
- purposeful and designed to meet specific learning goals;
- varied, challenging and achievable; and,
- builds on knowledge, skills and understanding developed during class time.

It is also important that both out-of-school commitments (including sport, cultural activities, tuition and home responsibilities) and access to technology outside the school environment are carefully considered.

Implementation

Stage-specific homework expectations will be communicated to students and parents / carers at the beginning of each year. Parents / carers will "opt in" or "opt out" of homework for their child(ren) at this time.

These Homework Procedures will be posted on the school website and be communicated to parents / carers on an annual basis.

A copy of these procedures will be provided to parents / carers upon enrolment.

Teachers

Teachers will:

- ensure students and parents/carers are aware of the school's homework procedures;
- respect family decisions to "opt out" of homework completion;
- ensure students are aware of what is expected of them and how they will receive feedback;
- assign homework that is appropriate for students' age and ability and that provides purposeful, varied, challenging and achievable activities to build on knowledge, skills and understanding developed during class time;
- provide students sufficient time to return their homework, allowing for competing home obligations and extracurricular activities;
- provide timely quality feedback to students on set homework; and,
- discuss with students and parents / carers any developing issues regarding a student's homework.

Parents / Carers

It is expected that parents / carers will:

- inform teachers of their decision for their child(ren) to "opt in" or "opt out" of homework at the start of each year;
- inform teachers of any change to this preference during the year;
- encourage and support their children to complete homework; and,
- discuss with their child's class teacher any concerns regarding learning requirements, changes in the family's circumstances or other issues relevant to their child's learning.

Below is a link to further information on how parents / carers can support their children with homework.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/practical-help-for-parents-and-carers/help-with-homework>

Students

It is expected that students whose families have chosen to "opt in" regarding homework completion will:

- comply with their parents' / carers' preference regarding homework;
- complete and return homework within the given time frame;
- ensure homework is completed to the best of their ability; and,
- seek assistance from teachers and parents / carers when difficulties arise.

<https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/homework-policy>

https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/associated-documents/Hwk_Pol_guide.pdf

Document history and details

Approval date
8 March 2021

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