



Homework Guidelines

Created by HSPS Staff 2015

Updated 2019

Hamilton South Public School Homework Guidelines

These guidelines have been developed in line with the New South Wales Department of Education and Communities policy '[Homework Policy Guidelines](#)'.

Rationale

Homework allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class. Homework provides training for students in planning and organising time and develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources. Additionally, it establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline (*May 2012 NSW Department of Education and Communities*).

Policy Statement

Homework will be educationally beneficial and will meet the realistic expectations of students, teachers, parents and caregivers (*May 2012 NSW Department of Education and Communities*).

Homework is **not compulsory** and students will **not be** disciplined for not completing tasks. If you would prefer for your child not to receive homework a discussion is needed with your child's class teacher, as well as the request put in writing.

Implementation

Homework will be managed differently depending on the age and learning needs of the child. The NSW Department of Education and Communities has the following guidelines.

Age-specific considerations

Primary schools

While there is little conclusive evidence of the learning benefits of homework in infants and primary schools, quality homework in these stages may help students to develop effective study habits and broaden their understandings and skills across the curriculum.

Homework for Kindergarten-Year 2

In general, students are not expected to complete formal homework in Kindergarten. Students may be given books to read at home, as appropriate.

In Years 1 and 2 some formal homework may be set. For example, students might be asked to read and write, learn words for spelling and complete some mathematical activities.

Homework for Years 3-6

Homework in Years 3-6 may be varied and students may be expected to work more independently. Students could be encouraged to read and practise mathematical concepts learnt at school. Other homework may also be set across areas of the curriculum.

Homework Policy considerations

Quality

Research indicates that student learning may be enhanced if homework is:

- appropriate for each student's age and ability
- relevant to each student's needs
- purposeful and designed to meet specific learning goals
- varied and challenging, but achievable
- built on knowledge, skills and understanding developed in class
- clearly stated and requirements made explicit during class time
- supported by teacher strategies for students having difficulties with homework.

Homework tasks should be assigned by teachers with a specific, explicit learning purpose. On completion, teachers should acknowledge student effort and provide feedback related to student learning.

NSW DEC (2017)

Homework will be discussed at the Parent information night held at the start of each year. No homework will go home before this time. Homework will commence across the school after the parent information sessions, including home reading books for students in K-2.

Homework may be administered differently in each grade and class throughout the school.

Homework in K-2

Homework in K-2 is designed to consolidate skills and develop good learning habits. Homework is designed to consolidate skills learnt in class. It is the Parents and Carers role to support their child in completing their homework activities to the best of their ability. Homework in K-2 is designed to take no longer than 10 - 15 minutes each school night and reading is encouraged as the most important aspect. Homework may include:

- Reading (school reader and/or own choice)
- Literacy Tasks
- Talking and Listening Tasks (news, public speaking)
- Mathematical Tasks
- Activities relating to the class current learning topic or focus

Teachers will set homework using the above guidelines. Homework will be marked and returned in a timely manner. Teachers will acknowledge homework that has been handed in significantly past the due date.

Homework in 3-6

Homework in 3-6 is designed to consolidate skills and develop good learning habits and revision. It is the Parents and Carers role to encourage their child to complete their homework activities to the best of their ability, and to take ownership of their learning and ask for assistance from their teacher if tasks are difficult. Homework in 3-6 is designed to take no longer than 20-30 minutes each school night, with half of this time devoted to reading. Homework may include:

- Reading (own choice)
- Literacy Tasks (may include small research tasks)
- Numeracy Tasks

Teachers will set homework using the above guidelines. Homework will be marked and returned in a timely manner. Teachers will acknowledge homework that has been handed in significantly past the due date.

| Homework Roles and Responsibilities | | |
|--|---|--|
| Teacher | Student | Parent/Carer |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set homework - Will provide homework - May provide online access to homework - Mark assigned homework and provide feedback as required - Communicate expectations with students and parents/carers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take their homework home - Know their login details as required for access to online tasks - Complete homework - Ask their teacher for assistance if needed - Return homework ready for marking on or before the due date | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage child to complete tasks - Direct child to ask for assistance as required - Communicate with the class teacher any homework problems - Indicate on the child's homework (using an asterisk or highlighter etc) where parent help has been required - Not to complete homework for your child - Notify class teacher if they do not wish for their child to participate in the homework program |

This policy will be reviewed in 2021 (and is available on our website)