



Homework Agreement

Statement of Intent

Homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, develop behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning. The setting of homework takes into account the need for the students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, recreational and cultural pursuits.

Homework that enhances student learning:

- ◆ is purposeful and relevant to students' needs
- ◆ is appropriate to the phase of learning (Early or Middle)
- ◆ is appropriate to the capability of the student
- ◆ develops the student's independence as a learner
- ◆ is varied, challenging and clearly related to the class work
- ◆ allows for student commitment to recreational, family and cultural activities.

Stakeholders' Responsibilities

Teachers' Responsibilities

Teachers can help students establish routine of regular, independent study by:

- ◆ setting homework on a regular basis
- ◆ clearly communicating the purpose, benefits and expectations of homework
- ◆ checking homework regularly and providing timely and useful feedback
- ◆ setting or planning homework that is varied, challenging and directly related to class work and appropriate to the students' learning needs
- ◆ explicitly teaching strategies to develop organisational and time management skills and providing opportunities to practice these strategies through homework
- ◆ giving consideration to other academic and personal development activities that students could be engaged in when setting homework
- ◆ discussing with parents and caregivers any developing problems concerning their child's homework and suggesting strategies to assist with their homework.

Students' Responsibilities:

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- ◆ discussing homework expectations with their parents or caregivers
- ◆ accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- ◆ following up on feedback provided by teachers
- ◆ seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- ◆ organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, and recreational and cultural activities.

Parents' and Caregivers' Responsibilities

Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

- ◆ reading to and with them, talking with them and involving them in tasks at home including shopping, playing games and physical activities
- ◆ helping them complete tasks by discussing key questions or directing them to suitable resources
- ◆ encouraging them to organise their time and take responsibility for their learning
- ◆ encouraging them to read, and to take an interest in and discuss current local, national and international events
- ◆ helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing

- ◆ sport and music, and engaging in other recreational activities
- ◆ contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to homework
- ◆ ensuring the students are seated at a quiet and well-lit desk with a chair of correct height

Homework appropriate to particular phases of learning

In the **Early Phase of Learning** (Prep to Year 3) many activities at home or in play can assist children develop literacy, numeracy and problem solving skills.

Homework tasks may include:

- ◆ revision of Mathematics concepts and number facts
- ◆ sight words and spelling
- ◆ daily reading to, with, and by parents / caregivers or other family members linking concepts with familiar activities such as shopping, preparation of food, local environment and family outings
- ◆ conversations about what is happening at school
- ◆ preparation for oral presentations
- ◆ opportunities to write for meaningful purposes.

In Years P, 1, 2 and 3, homework could be up to, but generally not more, than one hour per week.

In the **Middle Phase of Learning** (Years 4 to 6) many home activities can assist children develop literacy, numeracy and problem solving skills. Some homework can be completed daily or over a weekly or fortnightly period.

Homework may:

- ◆ include daily independent reading
- ◆ be coordinated across different subject areas
- ◆ include extension of class work, projects and research.

Homework in Year 4 and 5 will not be more than two to three hours per week.

Homework in Year 6 will not be more than three to four hours per week. In these years, students should be encouraged to take more responsibility for their own learning and may be required to engage in independent learning to complete work undertaken in class.

Relevant Legislation and Policy

- ◆ Part 4 Section 22 and 23 Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2000
- ◆ <http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/E/EducGenProvROO.pdf>

I agree to ensure that my child/children comply with the Ashmore State School Homework Policy.

Parent/Carer Name (Please print)

Signature

Date