

HOMEWORK

POLICY



**Effective:
March 2019**



HOMEWORK POLICY

PURPOSE

Freshwater Bay Primary School is committed to a whole school approach to ensure there is a consistent approach to homework for students. This Policy sets the appropriate year level homework required to consolidate student learning and provide opportunities for exploring new ideas.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all Freshwater Bay PS staff and students.

DEFINITIONS

Definitions specific to this policy include:

Term	Definition
Homework	Supporting higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. It also extends the time available for the exploration of new ideas and new situations.

1. PRINCIPLES

- 1.1. To create a supportive learning environment within the school and classroom so that students develop independent work habits.
- 1.2. To establish consistent and clear expectations of homework across year levels and communicate this to parents/guardians.
- 1.3. To help students reach their full potential.
- 1.4. To ensure homework is set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational, cultural and employment pursuits relevant to the student's age, development and educational aspirations.

2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1. The Principal is responsible for establishing and maintaining processes in compliance with this Policy.
- 2.2. The Principal must ensure teaching teams work collaboratively to establish a joint approach so that all students have the similar experiences and expectations.

2.3. Freshwater Bay PS staff must:

- 2.3.1. Clearly communicate homework expectations to students and parents
- 2.3.2. Support the development of students' independence as learners and encourage student to take responsibility for their own learning
- 2.3.3. Enhance development of the student's study habits to promote self-discipline and time management skills
- 2.3.4. Expand student's thinking and encourage them to use a range of resources and strategies
- 2.3.5. Provide opportunities for consolidation of the classroom programme
- 2.3.6. Provide opportunities for parents to share in their child's learning.

2.4. The Principal and staff, where possible, must assist parents to support their child in becoming an independent learner and consolidate their learning. However, staff must avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources.

3. PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES

3.1. Homework issues can be raised verbally, or in writing, to class teachers the first instance and the Principal following this.

3.2. KINDERGARTEN/ PRE PRIMARY

3.2.1. There will be no formal work set at the Kindergarten, however, news telling tasks may require parent support.

3.2.2. Home reading and sight words are introduced to the Pre-Primary students. Parents are encouraged to:

3.2.2.1. Read to their children daily

3.2.2.2. Count things whenever an interesting opportunity allows

3.2.2.3. Allow children to help with cooking

3.2.2.4. Take an interest in things children bring home and talk about from school

3.2.2.5. Have stationery available for your child to use

3.2.2.6. Encourage children to run, climb, balance, ball play (throwing, catching, kicking, batting) and get dirty (sand, mud, paint, etc).

3.2.3. Teachers may also provide parents with suggestions for encouraging their child's development and to support the learning in the Kindergarten/Pre-Primary program.

3.3. JUNIOR PRIMARY (YEARS 1-3)

3.3.1. Homework in the Junior Primary will be limited to 15-20 minutes to complete short tasks with the aim to establish positive routines which will form the basis of a positive opportunity for parents and children to enjoy learning together.

3.3.2. Examples of appropriate homework tasks for Junior Primary students include:

3.3.2.1. Phonics, spelling and word recognition practice

3.3.2.2. Nightly oral reading, reading for pleasure, adults reading to children

3.3.2.3. Discussing Science, History, Geography activities with your child

3.3.2.4. Practice and reinforcement of number facts as appropriate

3.3.2.5. Other activities may be given to consolidate classroom work.

3.4. MIDDLE PRIMARY (YEAR 4)

- 3.4.1. Homework in the Middle Primary will be limited to 20-30 minutes and focus on reinforcing the simple and effective routine for homework.
- 3.4.2. Homework will provide children with practise and reinforcement opportunities and introduce them to the process of investigating and researching independently.
- 3.4.3. Examples of appropriate homework tasks for Middle Primary students include:
 - 3.4.3.1. Reading for pleasure
 - 3.4.3.2. Practice to reinforce mathematics - number facts and tables
 - 3.4.3.3. Introducing research and problem solving tasks
 - 3.4.3.4. Journal writing
 - 3.4.3.5. Learning spelling words
 - 3.4.3.6. Completion of class work.

3.5. UPPER PRIMARY (YEARS 5- 6)

- 3.5.1. Effective homework in the Upper Primary years requires 30 plus minutes and goes beyond the practice and reinforcement exercises as in previous years.
- 3.5.2. Effective homework seeks to:
 - 3.5.2.1. Strengthen independent study skills
 - 3.5.2.2. Motivate students to study by setting them interesting and challenging tasks that are related to their class work
 - 3.5.2.3. As with the middle primary years, it works best when the teacher develops a simple but effective routine for setting out the homework requirements
- 3.5.3. Homework requirements should recognise the need for children to have time for out of school interests, friends, family, social activities and personal time.
- 3.5.4. Examples of appropriate homework tasks in this area are:
 - 3.5.4.1. Practice and reinforcement exercises arising from class work
 - 3.5.4.2. Short and longer term tasks that develop time management skills
 - 3.5.4.3. Reading for pleasure
 - 3.5.4.4. Book reviews
 - 3.5.4.5. Work that involves research and investigatory skills and thinking challenges.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Department of Education XXXX Policy
Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline.
Department of Education Homework K-12 Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Policy.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information about this Policy can be obtained by contacting the Principal of Freshwater Bay PS.

VERSION HISTORY

Version	Approved By	Approval Date	Review Date	Sections Modified	Owner	Implementation Officer
1.0	SCHOOL BOARD	26/03/19	26/03/20	New Policy	Principal	Principal