

HOMEWORK POLICY

ELTHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rationale:

The purpose of homework is to reinforce and complement classroom learning. It will enable parents to participate in their child's education and provides an awareness of the curricula being taught. It is designed to be a positive experience for children, which consolidates and enriches skills taught at school.

Aims:

Homework should assist students to develop the following skills:

- good life-long learning and study habits
- personal responsibility for life long learning
- organisational and time management skills
- self discipline
- skills in seeking and using information from a wide range of resources

Homework should be:

- balanced in terms of demands between study and recreation, family and cultural activities
- purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided to the students.

Implementation:

- A copy of the school's homework policy will be sent home at the beginning of each school year.
- At the beginning of each term parents will be advised by letter of the term topics and the homework expectations. This will include a time frame for completion of work and explanations appropriate to the grade level.
- Homework **may** be set during weekends. This is not in line with DEECD recommendations, but the Eltham Primary School policy group (consisting of interested parents and School Councilors) felt that homework set during weekends gave parents an opportunity to support their child.
- At times, parents may need to negotiate adjustments to the set homework.
- If students are failing to complete homework on a regular basis parents will be informed.

- **Prep to grade 2**

Homework should not exceed 30 minutes per day, or 2.5 hours per week.

This will mainly consist of daily reading with and by parents, simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities such as spelling words and number work.

- **Grade 3 and 4**

Homework should not exceed 30 minutes per day, or 2.5 hours per week.

This will mainly consist of daily reading with and by parents, extension of classroom activities in number, spelling and assignment tasks.

- **Grades 5 and 6**

This should not exceed 30-45 minutes per day, or 3.5 hours per week.

This will include daily independent reading, extensions of class work, projects, assignments and or research. Children in Grade 5 & 6 will use diaries to record homework, dates and communication from parents.

Evaluation:

Evaluation will take place at grade, area and school levels. Evaluation will be based on the development of students positive study habits, which will be assessed according to some or all of the following:

- Student's responsibility for planning and completing their own learning tasks
- Quality and presentation of the work
- An ability to use community resources for research
- Completion of work by a due date
- Feedback from parents

* This policy will be revised and updated as needed by EPS policy group.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in.....

20th October 2003