

HOMEWORK POLICY HILLARYS PRIMARY SCHOOL 2023- 2024

Updated 24 July 2023

BACKGROUND and RATIONALE

Every school is to have a documented approach to homework that considers the needs of the students and the phase of their development and reflects the context of the school.

[DoE Homework policy February 2014](#)

Homework should be purposeful learning that consolidates student knowledge and skills and encourages them to extend their own learning and interests.

PRINCIPLES

Homework should:

- Relate directly to teaching and learning outcomes relevant to the student and their skill level
- Develop the student's independence as a learner
- Further the partnership between school and home by keeping parents informed of current learning
- Not be dependent on high levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available
- Not impinge on time for family, social, and cultural pursuits relevant to the student and their wellbeing, and not be issued on weekends
- Be disassociated from any form of behaviour management

PARENTS & CARERS SUPPORTING HOMEWORK AT HOME

- Establish a homework routine – a time and place
- Show interest in your child's homework without doing it for them
- Ensure that your child has access to resources to complete homework
- Communicate with your child's teacher if you have questions about homework

CHILDREN ON HOLIDAYS DURING SCHOOL TIME

Formal schoolwork will not be provided by teachers whilst students are on holidays. Holidays can provide highly beneficial learning experiences and some suggestions for informal learning while on holiday include:

- Reading for pleasure
- Engage in social and cultural experiences
- Maintain e-mail contact with their class or send post cards
- Keep a simple diary, including brochures, postcards and photos
- For holidays longer than 6 months, children can be enrolled in the School of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE).

TEACHERS

Parents and carers will be informed of school homework policy procedures, appropriate time commitments and expectations at parent meetings in Term 1.

YEAR LEVEL EXPECTATIONS

Four days per week – Monday to Thursday

KINDERGARTEN & PRE-PRIMARY (10 minutes)

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

Parent assisted activities are introduced to students in Pre-Primary. Parents and children are also encouraged to incorporate learning through everyday activities and life experiences. Some appropriate homework tasks include:

- Introduction of Home Reading and High Frequency word program (from Term 2/3)
- Online learning programs such as Mathseeds, Reading Eggs, and Fast Phonics
- Reading to your child daily
- Count things whenever an interesting opportunity allows
- Allow your child to help with cooking and other appropriate activities to develop skills
- Take an interest in the things your child brings home and talks about from school
- Encourage running, climbing, balancing, and ball play (throwing, catching, kicking, batting)

YEARS 1-3 (10-15 minutes)

Homework in these early years should be limited to short tasks. These should form the basis of a positive opportunity for parents and children to enjoy learning together. Examples of appropriate homework tasks in this area are:

- Nightly oral reading, including reading for pleasure and adults reading to children
- Preparation and assistance for classroom news telling and speaking tasks
- Online learning programs such as Mathletics, Reading Eggs, Literacy Pro, and Soundwaves
- Phonics and spelling practice
- Practice of number facts as appropriate
- Other activities to revise classroom work

YEARS 4 – 5 (20-30 minutes)

In the middle years of primary schooling, homework should provide children with practice, revision, and opportunities to investigate and research independently. Examples of appropriate homework tasks in this area are:

- Tasks as for Years 1-3, including online learning programs
- Research and problem solving tasks
- Writing tasks

YEAR 6 (30 minutes)

Effective homework in the upper primary continues with ongoing practice and revision of learning, with more focus on

- Practice and reinforcement exercises arising from class work
- Online learning programs such as Mathletics and Literacy Pro
- Longer term tasks that develop time management skills
- Reading for pleasure and knowledge
- Research and investigation skills, and thinking challenges