



Homework Guidelines

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2002-0003>

Rationale:

Randwick Public School in consultation with our community have developed these school homework guidelines to meet the needs of our students. Our homework guidelines will be communicated to staff, parents and caregivers, particularly at the time of student enrolment.

Overview:

Homework is a valuable part of schooling. It allows for practising and consolidating work done in class. Homework provides training for students in planning and organising time as well as establishing habits of study, concentration and self-discipline.

Outside school interests such as music, sport, dance, clubs etc. are also vital for the education of the whole child. Learning to use leisure time purposefully and creatively helps children to be respectful, responsible and a learner. Please help your child to plan their activities so they have a balance of school homework and out-of-school experiences.

The expected duration of homework should be age appropriate and should take into account the individual differences of students. It should be flexible to allow for children in support programs such as English as an Additional Language (EaLD), Learning support (L.S) and external specialist programs, such as speech therapy, to complete additional homework tasks. In these cases the parents and the teachers involved will need to monitor homework demands and set priorities for individual students.

Teachers will keep a record of children who do not complete or return homework or who do not complete homework to an acceptable standard. If you would not like this to happen, please contact your child's teacher.

From time to time students will not be able to complete homework tasks for a variety of reasons ranging from personal illness, family obligations or sporting activities outside school hours. Teachers will be sensitive to such situations. Parents should inform the classroom teacher of any such events which may prevent the child from completing set homework.

The student should be able to cope with the level of homework and complete homework whilst still having time for recreational activities. If a parent sees that a child has worked conscientiously at a task for a reasonable amount of time but has not completed it, they should be sensitive to the child's needs. In such cases parents should communicate with the class teacher.

Reading:

Daily home reading must be included as an essential component of homework from Kindergarten to Year 6.

- ✓ It will be consistent across the grade/stage, it will be monitored, recorded and encouraged in order to develop a habit of daily reading.
- ✓ Reading material should be at the child's independent reading level and parents and students are encouraged to see this as an activity to enjoy together.
- ✓ Students use decodable readers or appropriately levelled books (at their Zone of Proximal Development) as a source of home reading.
- ✓ Students can borrow appropriate ZPD books from the school library.

Implementation:

Each grade will establish homework which is educationally beneficial and will meet the realistic expectations of students, teachers, parents and caregivers.

Students will be set homework each Friday and due the following Thursday. Parents are asked to check that the activities are completed and mark any work with their child as appropriate.

Year level	Homework	Home reading	Time Expectations
Kindergarten- Early Stage 1	'Tricky words' practice (5 minutes) Reading Eggs - optional Maths Seeds - optional	Home reading (decodables and readers) 10 minutes per day. Parents can also read to children nightly.	Homework tasks should not exceed 15 minutes per day.
Year 1- Stage 1	InitialLit games/spelling work (10 minutes) Reading Eggs - optional Maths Seeds - optional	Home reading 10 minutes per day (decodables and readers). Parents are encouraged to read to their child daily for enjoyment and to expand vocabulary and knowledge.	Homework tasks should not exceed 20 minutes per day.
Year 2- Stage 1	<i>Maths Plus</i> unit (15 minutes) Reading Eggs - optional Maths Seeds - optional	Home reading 15 minutes per day. Parents are encouraged to read to their child daily for enjoyment and to expand vocabulary and knowledge.	Homework tasks should not exceed 30 minutes per day.
Year 3 & 4- Stage 2	<i>Maths Plus</i> unit (20 minutes) Reading Eggspress - optional <i>Matharoo</i> - optional	Home reading 20 minutes per day. Continued reading with children for enjoyment of longer/more difficult texts for enjoyment and to expand vocabulary and knowledge is highly beneficial.	Homework tasks should not exceed 40 minutes per day
Year 5 & 6- Stage 3	<i>Maths Plus</i> unit (30 minutes) Reading Eggspress - optional <i>Matharoo</i> - optional	Home reading 30 minutes per day. Parents are encouraged to share discussions with their children about what they are choosing to read.	Homework tasks should not exceed 60 minutes per a day

Shared expectations and responsibilities

It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own learning by:

- organising their time to manage priorities;
- completing the work neatly and as accurately as possible;
- returning the homework on time; and
- seeking assistance from teachers and parents when difficulties arise.

It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by:

- engaging with their child's completion of homework growing from working with their child in the early years to independent completion by Year 5 and 6;
- developing a positive and productive approach to homework;
- ensuring there is a balance between time spent on homework and recreational activities;a
- engaging with books with their child on a daily basis, either listening to, reading to or discussing;
- communicating with the teacher of any difficulties; and
- marking the homework with their child
- notifying the school in writing if their family is unable to support completion of homework at any time.

The classroom teacher accepts responsibility for:

- setting and citing the homework and communicating with students and parents;
- Informing parents when the homework is not completed to returned;
- advising and assisting individual students with aspects of the homework they do not understand.; and
- ensuring that the homework is appropriate for the level of the student.