

Lyneham Primary School Homework Policy



A
Lyneham Primary School Board
Policy Paper

LYNEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Purpose

This policy outlines how homework will be incorporated into education programs at Lyneham Primary School. It provides a rationale for homework as well as the processes and procedures for participating in homework. This policy recognizes the importance to children's learning of positive partnerships between school and families.

Rationale

1. Many parents and teachers view homework as a useful adjunct to school- based learning. Reasons advanced for setting homework are:
 - a. To communicate to the child, parent or carer that learning is a continuous process that occurs both inside and outside the school;
 - b. To promote the child's organizational and study skills, particularly in the later years of primary school;
 - c. To develop positive work habits;
 - d. To strengthen the link between the school and home; and
 - e. To reinforce and extend in-school learning.

Homework effectiveness for academic achievement in primary years

2. A common parental view is that homework leads to improved academic achievement. In fact, research to date on the academic benefits of homework has produced inconclusive and mixed results. Some studies have shown that homework does deliver academic benefits for children as young as those undertaking year 2, while other studies show little correlation between academic results and undertaking homework. The research does show that academic benefits are more obvious for secondary-school children. There is general academic agreement that homework may provide non-academic benefits, including developing children's achievement motivation and assisting them to become mature learners. There is also research showing that parents and carers may benefit from homework through becoming more involved in their child's education.

3. Owing to the inconclusive nature of research into the link between homework and academic achievement, homework is not included in Lyneham Primary School's formal reporting procedures.

Principles

4. Homework at Lyneham Primary School will be set in accordance with the following principles.
5. Homework should:
 - a. Revise and practise previously taught concepts and skills;
 - b. Enhance learning skills;
 - c. Deepen the understanding of concepts and skills already covered in class;
 - d. Have a clear outcome and be well explained and clearly understood;
 - e. Show variety over time;
 - f. Be appropriate for the learning needs of the students;
 - g. Be capable of being completed with minimal resources; and
 - h. Be acknowledged by the teacher within a reasonable period.

Year guidance

6. The following content and time guidance is suggested for each year level.
 - a. **Preschool**
No formal homework.
 - b. **Kindergarten — Year 2**
Homework at this level should be reading related and not exceed 60 minutes per week.
 - c. **Year 3 — 4**
Homework should be mostly related to literacy and numeracy and not exceed 60 minutes per week.
 - d. **Year 5 — 6**
Homework should be mostly related to literacy and numeracy and not exceed 90 minutes per week.

The role of parents and carers

7. While homework is designed for children to complete independently, parents and carers are encouraged to be involved with their child's homework.
8. Parents and carers can support their child by:
 - a. Providing a suitable environment in which homework can be done;
 - b. Encouraging the child to complete and submit the homework;
 - c. Encouraging the child to 'have a go' before stepping in and providing assistance;
 - d. Ensuring that homework does not become a burden on the child by balancing 'work' and play;
 - e. Reporting to the child's teacher any issues with the nature and quantity of homework or any issues the child is having completing the work; and
 - f. Contacting the teacher if their child is not receiving regular homework.
9. The school recognizes that parents and carers sometimes wish to provide additional material for their child to learn outside school. Teachers are happy to provide advice on appropriate materials and resources. Parents and carers should make an appointment with their child's teacher to discuss their child's learning needs.
10. Recognizing the important role that parents and carers have in encouraging homework completion, parents and carers will be informed if there are changes to the homework schedule. Such notification will be via *Newslyne* or a note home.

Resources

11. If required, the school is committed to supporting the resources and time needs of children to complete their homework.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed within each School Improvement cycle; that is, every four years.

Annamaria Zuffo
Principal

David Horner
Chair, School Board

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