Phoenix Primary School

Learn Grow Succeed

Homework Policy

Purpose of Homework

Homework assists students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering positive lifelong learning habits and providing students with another opportunity to be responsible for their own learning.

Homework can support higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. Homework will relate directly to the learning and teaching programs appropriate to the needs of students.

Homework is another opportunity for parents to actively participate in their child's education. In partnership with the school, parents are able to encourage and establish homework patterns from early primary school. Homework also gives parents insight into the learning programs.

Types of homework may include:

1. Work:
    - to strengthen skills such as spelling words or math facts or
    - to enrich or extend a lesson, such as a special project.
2. Independent reading by the child or reading to your child regularly
3. Class assignments over a period of time

Consideration may be given to home reading programs, projects or activities which might be appropriate for their phase of learning. There are some learning programs and situations where it may be determined that homework is not useful or appropriate.

Homework will be consistent with the philosophy of the West Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline and school plans and has been developed in the context of Phoenix Primary School.

Student's Role

- Complete their homework to an acceptable standard.
- Return their completed homework to school.
- Demonstrate responsibility by caring for materials required to complete homework, such as home readers, pencils, pens and other equipment.

Teachers's Role

- Teachers will be responsible for setting and checking homework.
- Teachers will be expected to inform parents of their homework expectations of the students at the beginning of the year and throughout the year as deemed necessary by the teacher.
- Be aware of circumstances which may prevent a child from completing homework tasks and consider these when providing feedback.
- Accept circumstances that may impact on the student's ability or capacity to complete homework tasks.
- Care should be taken to ensure that undue pressure is not placed on students and that a balance is maintained between the demands of study and recreational pastimes.

Parent's Role

- Set a regular routine for homework. Help them to complete their homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources.
- Provide positive support and encouragement to complete homework.
- Praise your child. It is easy to criticise when homework isn't complete. It is just as easy to praise when homework is finished. Your encouragement will further motivate your child to do their best.
- Assist children, if necessary, with their homework, but not do it for them.

Conclusion

Homework can be given on school nights during term, in consideration for family and recreational time, with the weekend being left optional. Homework will not be set over term breaks.

Preparation of students for the time commitment of homework anticipated in years to come is not, in itself, a reasonable basis for setting homework.