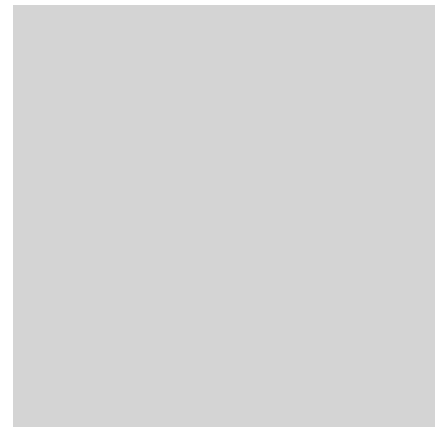




All about homework

A parent's guide



Homework bridges the gap between learning at school and learning at home. It reinforces work done in class and helps develop skills such as research and time management.

Homework helps to establish study habits, concentration, self discipline and can stimulate children. Each school develops its own homework policy after consultation with parents/ caregivers and teachers.

Being involved in your child's homework

Being involved in your child's homework is important. It keeps you involved in their learning and progress and sends them the message that homework is worthwhile.

Starting a homework routine early in your child's school life will help them to develop good study habits. Help your child to choose a time that suits them. Some children are more alert in the morning, some at night.

Remember that you are never helping your child if you end up doing their homework for them. Homework is aimed at developing their skills and knowledge and each stage builds on another.

How you can help

- Take an active interest in your child's homework
- Support your child in setting aside time each day for homework
- Provide a dedicated place for homework and study if possible
- Assist teachers to monitor homework by signing completed work if requested, and be aware of the amount of homework set

- Communicate with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework or your child's approach to homework
- Encourage your children to read and take an interest in current events
- Alert the school to any domestic circumstances or extra curricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or marked.

Three types of homework

Practice exercises help students to remember and practice newly acquired skills - such as memorising mathematical tables, practising spelling words, writing essays and reading for pleasure.

Preparatory homework requires students to source and read background information to prepare them for future lessons on a specific subject - such as reading an article on the Gold Rush in preparation for a lesson in Australian history.

Extension assignments encourage students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively. Assignments may include writing a book review, researching local news or retrieving items from the Internet.

Homework for Kindergarten-Year 2

In general, your child will not be expected to complete formal homework in Kindergarten. However, there are things you can do at home to help your child make the most of what they learn in Kindergarten. Reading to children at home and involving them in family activities will greatly assist the development of their skills in literacy, numeracy and problem solving.

In Years 1 and 2 some formal homework is usually set. For example, students may be asked to copy letters or words, or to complete an activity sheet.

Homework for Years 3-6

Homework in Years 3-6 will be varied and students will be expected to work more independently. However, teachers will still provide guidance and assistance to students having difficulties completing their homework.

Homework for Years 7-12

In Years 7-12 homework will be set on a regular basis in most subjects.

As students move into the senior school the homework and study demands will increase. However, students will be able to, at times, negotiate the amount, type and time frame of their homework.

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