



Mulga Street Primary School

HOMEWORK POLICY

1. What is Homework?

A definition

Homework is any work, set by a teacher, to be completed by students outside normal classroom hours.

A Description

Homework includes:

- Reading
- Practising skills eg learning words, tables, number facts
- Information gathering
- Set homework tasks, eg contracts, varied activities from all curriculum areas
- Finishing or continuing work set in class eg pictures, title pages, project work
- Continuing with project work

If finishing set work within class time allowances is a persistent problem for an individual student, teachers may negotiate with parents to have work completed at home.

2. Reasons for Homework

- Homework enables parents to be involved with what their children are learning at school.
- Students are able to extend or consolidate their learning by doing extra work at home, eg reading, practising tables, learning words, researching a topic.
- Doing homework encourages students to accept responsibility for their own learning. It also enables them to develop skills as independent learners.
- It provides an opportunity for students to develop time management and organisational skills.

3. Amount of Homework

There needs to be some means of communicating homework requirements with parents, eg via a student diary, class newsletter, memo book.

Homework expectations and ways parents can support their children with homework need to be clearly outlined to both students and parents early in the school year. Acquaintance night, welcoming letters or newsletters are suggested as suitable places to do this.

Teachers of specialist classes, (including Non Instructional Time (NIT) and Year 6/7 Specialist teachers) will need to negotiate homework requirements with class teachers to avoid overloading students, eg one night a week may need to be set apart for homework set by other teachers. Where possible students are to be given the opportunity to plan their homework timetables over a few nights so that they can work around extra curricular activities eg sports practice, music lessons, family outings.

Students who do not finish work in class will attend the "Catch Up" room at lunch times.

4. Guidelines for Parents

Reception/2 - Reading and spelling activities are encouraged on a regular basis (sight words and reading)

- Prepare a news topic once a week

3-5 – Up to 30 minutes on several occasions during the week

Middle School – middle school students can expect to receive up to 45 minutes of homework on several occasions during the course of the week.