

Upper Lansdowne Homework Overview



- This Homework overview will provide the basis of the school's 2019 Homework Policy.
- We welcome your thoughts on this policy which will be discussed at the next P&C meeting.
- Please let your child's teacher know your thoughts about homework and our 2019 Homework Policy.

Homework is a purposeful learning experience. It can consolidate, extend and enrich the school program and promote home study habits in children in an environment of mutual support from teachers, parents and caregivers.

Homework is defined as any task assigned by school teachers intended for students to carry out during non-school hours designed to meet specific learning goals.

Students will also participate in a range of activities and have diverse experiences outside of school hours that may enhance their learning. Experiences and activities at home that help to create a rich learning environment for children are to be encouraged.

The NSW Department of Education policy website specifies that each school is to develop a Homework Policy. A school's Homework Policy should be:

- relevant to the needs of students
- developed in consultation
- communicated to staff, students and parents

Departmental Homework Considerations

Homework for Kindergarten-Year 2

In general, students are not expected to complete formal homework in Kindergarten.

Students may be given books to read at home.

In Years 1 and 2 some formal homework may be set. For example, students might be asked to read and write, learn words for spelling and complete some mathematical activities.

Homework for Years 3-6

Homework in Years 3-6 may be varied and students may be expected to work more independently.

Students could be encouraged to read and practise mathematical concepts learnt at school.

Other homework may also be set across areas of the curriculum.

Homework - Benefits:

- reinforces and consolidates work done in class
- teaches students how to plan and organise their time
- develops students' research skills
- establishes habits of study, concentration and self- discipline which will serve students for the rest of their lives
- provide parents and caregivers with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their children

Homework - The How

- Homework will be set on a weekly basis so as to allow students and parents to integrate the homework schedule into other regular family commitments
 - An adult should supervise and support the completion of homework
 - All students will be encouraged to complete homework
 - Teachers will record the completion of homework and provide feedback for students about their completed homework
 - The amount of time that students are expected to spend on homework will depend upon the age, ability, home environment and extracurricular activities of students
 - It is important that students have opportunities for free time, leisure and physical activities outside of school

Homework is not compulsory at Upper Lansdowne, however there is the expectation that our students complete homework and return it to their teacher on Fridays.

For our senior students, attitudes developed now, will influence their attitudes towards study at high school and beyond.



Homework Implementation

Homework is set on Mondays.

Students should complete their nightly homework tasks and return it on Fridays.

Suggested Time Allocations

Kinder - No prescribed time

Year 1 - 10 minutes (up to 40 minutes per week)

Year 2 - 15 minutes (up to 60 minutes per week)

Year 3 - 20 minutes (up to 1 ½ hours per week)

Year 4 - 20 minutes (up to 1 ½ hours per week)

Year 5 - 30 minutes (up to 2 hours per week)

Year 6 - 30 minutes (up to 2 hours per week)

Suggested Homework Activities for Upper Lansdowne PS Students

Kinder - Kinder students have the option of playing, reading their reader, reading their sight word cards, singing Jolly Phonics songs, practicing their numbers, relaxing and listen to a parent read to them.

Years 1-2 - students should read to an adult nightly (5-10mins), write their spelling words and spell their spelling words to an adult. Home readers and spelling homework is sent home on Mondays and should be returned Fridays.

Years 3-6 - students should read to an adult nightly (5 minutes), read to themselves (5 minutes), write their spelling words and spell their spelling words to an adult, and students should revise their times tables (5 minutes).

Spelling homework sheets should be returned Fridays.

How Much Should Parents Help or Push Their Child?

The setting of homework by the school is to support student development and is aimed at revising skills.

The homework has not been set to cause interfere in family life or cause disharmony.

If you feel that the homework is too hard, please contact your child's teacher and discuss the situation.

Also if you feel that your child requires further work, contact your child's teacher to discuss options.

Homework works best when parents support the school in ensuring that the homework is complete.

In this overview, suggested times have been listed against each age group.

Use this as a guide and ensure that you hold a 'life balance'.

Remember that every child also needs time to play and relax each day so as to allow them to develop holistically. *'Childhood is precious and children need time to be children as well'*.

Expectations:

The role of the teacher is to:

- ensure the work is appropriate for each student's age and ability
- provide homework activities which are related to class work
- consider student's commitments out of school hours eg extra-curricular activities and home responsibilities
- explain to students and their parents the purpose and benefits of homework
- clearly explain the homework activities to students prior to sending it home
- mark homework promptly and appropriately
- maintain homework records and provide regular feedback to students
- contact parents when homework is repeatedly not handed in or completed

The role of the parent is to:

actively take an interest in homework

encourage and support their children to complete homework

talk to their children about their homework or reading

communicate any concerns about the nature of homework with teachers

The role of the student is to:

- *complete and return homework within the given time frame*
- *communicate with parents or caregivers about homework*
- *be responsible for organising their time*
- *ensure homework is of a high standard*

Links

[DET - "Help with homework"](#)

[DET Homework Policy](#)

[Homework @ Learning Potential](#) website