



Homework Policy 2018

Rationale

Homework is defined as any task assigned by school teachers intended for students to carry out during non-school hours and designed to meet specific learning goals¹.

In 2017 the whole school community was consulted to determine homework expectations. Key messages from parents, staff and students were: our school community supports the provision of homework; students need sufficient time to complete homework; homework should have activities which motivate students and include practice of reading, spelling and maths; could include online programs taking into account not all students have access to hardware and internet at home.

This policy clarifies a consistent and manageable whole school approach to student homework across Years K-6 at Kingsgrove Public School.

Policy statement

Student homework at Kingsgrove PS will be:

- appropriate for each student's age and ability
- relevant to each student's needs
- purposeful and designed to meet specific learning goals
- varied and challenging, but achievable
- built on knowledge, skills and understanding developed in class
- clearly stated and requirements made explicit during class time
- supported by teacher strategies for students having difficulties with homework
- take into account students' access to resources and technology beyond school
- consider students' outside of school hours commitments
- provide some flexibility and options to allow for different student circumstances.

Implementation

The Principal is responsible for:

- developing the Homework Policy in consultation with the community
- communicating the Homework policy to staff, students, parents/caregivers
- monitoring and supporting teachers in the implementation of the Homework policy.

¹ *Homework Policy Guidelines*, NSW Department of Education, May 2012.

Teachers are responsible for:

- implementing the Homework policy
- communicating the purpose, benefits and expectations of homework to students and parents/caregivers
- acknowledge student effort in completing homework and provide timely and relevant feedback on achievement
- ensuring resources and materials are easily accessible for students
- supporting students having difficulties with homework through further explanation or modification of activities/expectations
- discussing with students and parents/caregivers any developing issues regarding a student's homework
- discussing homework practices with colleagues.

Parents and caregivers are responsible for:

- reading and understanding the homework policy and expectations
- supervising their children's completion of homework
- discussing with their child's teacher any issues regarding a student's homework.

Students are responsible for:

- completing homework with care and effort
- giving completed homework to the teacher on the due date
- asking the teacher for assistance if needed before the due date.

Homework expectations based on community consultation

Homework will be provided by the teacher to students on Mondays each week and completed homework is to be returned by students to the teacher on the following Monday. Students have one full week to complete.

Teachers will collect homework on Mondays and return marked homework on the following Monday.

Kindergarten	Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)
Approximately 15 minutes per day	Approximately 20 minutes per day
<p>Completed weeks 1-10 each term</p> <p>Daily Reading Log for parents to supervise and sign at home. Students select books from take home readers to support their school reading level.</p> <p>*Reading Eggs K-6 online program is also available at home for additional reading activities at the individual students' level if parents wish, annual cost is covered in textbook fees.</p>	
News topic	
	<p>Weeks 1-9 each term (returned weeks 2-10)</p> <p>Homework grid with weekly activities based on term learning programs including literacy and numeracy activities.</p>

Stage 2 Approximately 30 minutes per day	Stage 3 Approximately 40 minutes per day
Completed weeks 1-10 each term	
<p>Weekly Reading Log for parents to supervise and sign at home. Student selects books. Premiers Reading Challenge list of suggested books will be provided.</p> <p>*Reading Eggs K-6 online program is also available at home for additional reading activities at the individual students' level if parents wish, annual cost is covered in textbook fees.</p>	
Weeks 1-9 each term (returned weeks 2-10)	
<p>Homework grid with weekly activities based on term learning programs including literacy and numeracy activities.</p>	

Informing and reporting

Students and parents/caregivers are responsible for the completion of homework. Teachers record the completion or non-completion of homework.

If a student has not completed homework for two or more weeks in a term without a reasonable explanation the teacher will inform parents by letter (sample letter attached). Student completion of homework will be reported to parents each term in the semester parent interview meetings and written student reports.

A copy of the Homework Policy will be provided to parents at enrolment and will be available on the school website.

Monitoring, evaluation and review

The Homework policy is monitored by the school leadership team. Feedback from staff, students and parents will be discussed at stage, parent and executive meetings as issues arise. As well the policy will be reviewed by school staff annually for updating through parent and staff surveys.



Homework not submitted to teacher

Dear parent/carer

I am writing to inform you that your child _____ of class _____ has not submitted their completed homework on at least two occasions this term.

I request that you speak to your child about the importance of completing homework. The Kingsgrove Public School Homework Policy states:

Parents and caregivers are responsible for:

- reading and understanding the homework policy and expectations
- supervising their children's completion of homework
- discussing with their child's teacher any issues regarding a student's homework.

If you wish to discuss your child's homework with the class teacher please contact me at school on 9150 9254 (Caroline Street campus) or 9150 9097 (Kingsgrove Road campus).

Class teacher _____

Date _____

Parent feedback on 2018 Homework Policy

If you would like to give feedback on the new Homework Policy please write your comments below and return to the school office. With thanks, Ms B. d'Astoli, Principal

Parent Name: _____ Student & class: _____