



**COBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL**



# **HOMEWORK**

**POLICY - 2016**

## **Rationale:**

Coburn Primary School believes that homework plays an important role in the academic and personal development of students from Prep to Year 6. It provides an opportunity for parents, teachers and students to share the responsibility for encouraging the view that learning occurs beyond school and can be supported at home.

## **Aims:**

The purpose of Homework at Coburn Primary School is –

- To enable students to reinforce and develop curriculum skills and attitudes learnt at school.
- To provide parents with an involvement in their child's education.
- To foster and develop good study habits.
- To provide an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

At Coburn Primary School, we aim to inform all families of our homework expectations at the beginning of the year and parents can access and view the policy via the school website.

## **Implementation:**

Teachers will set homework each week that is suited to the age, ability and developmental needs of their students. At the beginning of each year, all year levels will decide on the specific homework requirements for the students. These requirements are then communicated with students and families.

In addition to material set by the teacher:

- Students have access to the 'Mathletics' and 'Reading Eggs' programs to support their learning.
- Students may also choose to be a part of the Premier's Reading Challenge as part of their home reading.
- The school will from time to time provide on-line resources that students may choose to take advantage of.
- Homework should not be onerous, nor should it negatively impact upon the recreation/ school balance.

### **Prep – Grade 2 (5 nights per week)**

Homework activities in these Grades will be linked to the classroom program and **may** include:

- Reading every night by themselves or with an adult building up to 15 minutes (Grade Prep) and 20 minutes (Grade 1 and 2) per night.
- English skills practised such as spelling/writing/reading.
- Reading may include read to, with and by parents/guardians. Bedtime stories.
- Activities that reinforce numeracy skills: games and puzzles, Real Life Maths such as shopping and cooking;
- Gathering pictures or resources.
- Outdoor activities and games such as playing with a ball, skipping etc.
- Preparing for the next day, e.g. readers, lunchbox, notes, library bag to encourage organisation skills.
- Informal learning activities such as talking, playing and other experiences that will broaden their understanding of the world in an enjoyable way;
- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework.
- Homework will generally not exceed 25 minutes per day.

### **Grades 3 and 4 (5 nights per week)**

Homework activities in these Grades will be linked to the classroom program and **may** include:

- Reading every night by themselves or with an adult building up to 25 minutes per night.
- English skills practised such as spelling/writing/reading.
- Reinforcement of numeracy skills: games and puzzles, Real Life Maths such as shopping and cooking.
- Gathering resources, collecting project material across all Key Learning Areas.

- Gathering data by various methods, e.g. interviews, surveys.
- Open ended activities that involve choice and cater for individual learning styles.
- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework.
- Homework will generally not exceed 35 minutes per day.

#### **Grades 5 and 6 (5 nights per week, or to match due dates)**

Students will be encouraged to plan and manage their homework through the use of the school diary so that homework can be finished by the due date. Homework activities in these Grades will be linked to the classroom program and **may** include:

- Reading every night building up to 30 minutes per night.
- English skills practised such as spelling/writing/reading.
- Reinforcement of numeracy learning e.g. games and puzzles.
- Gathering resources, researching and collecting project material/information across all Key Learning Areas.
- Gathering data by various methods, e.g. interviews, surveys.
- Open ended activities that involve choice and cater for individual learning styles.
- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework.
- Homework will generally not exceed 45 minutes per day.

#### **Role of the Teacher**

- Homework expectations will be sent home at the beginning of each year.
- The teacher will set out clear expectations about the homework given.
- Teachers will set relevant and meaningful tasks that are related to classroom learning.
- Monitor student completion of their learning.
- Provide timely feedback to the students.
- Teachers will use discretion when determining tasks, taking into consideration the student's ability, home circumstances and commitments. There will be no homework set on holidays or weekends.
- Teachers will model tasks and provide examples. (Parents may provide help if required)
- Homework in Prep to Grade 4 will generally be set on a weekly basis so that it can be balanced with other family activities. In Grades 5 and 6 the children will be encouraged to manage their time and adhere to due dates.
- Specialist teachers may liaise with the classroom teacher to have the children complete meaningful tasks.
- Discuss with students and parents poor or incomplete homework that may need to be completed during a time designated by the teacher.

#### **Role of the Students**

- Students need to make sure they take home everything they require to complete the homework task/s.
- Students need to manage their time so that there is no panic when homework is due.
- If a student has difficulty in completing the homework tasks then they are to advise their teacher and seek advice or assistance.

#### **Role of Parents/ Guardians**

- Parents should notify the teacher if there is any difficulty with the tasks set.
- Parents are asked to follow the specific grades homework expectations e.g. Grade 1=Initial/sign a child's diary to record that the child has read or practised spelling words etc.
- Assist their child with homework task but not complete the task for their child.
- Set an environment and routine at home that fits their family.

#### **Evaluation:**

This Policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in.....	May 2016
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