

HOMEWORK

LEOPOLD PRIMARY SCHOOL POLICY

Rationale

Homework complements and reinforces classroom learning while developing sound study habits and time management skills. It needs to be challenging, meaningful and relevant, catering to all intelligences and individual learning styles. It provides important opportunities for parents to share in their child's education by strengthening communication and partnerships between the home and school.

Aims:

- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop a responsibility for self-learning.

Implementation

Teachers will set homework each week that is suited to the age and ability of their students. At the beginning of each term the grade teams (eg All grade 4 classes) will decide on the specific homework requirements for their grade level. The requirements are then shared with students and families. All grades within a level will have a similar set of homework requirements.

Prep –Year 2 (5-10 minutes per night X 4 nights per week)

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

- Practice of English skills- spelling/ writing / reading
- Reading may include read to, with and by parents / guardians. Bedtime stories.
- Activities that reinforce numeracy skills :- Mathematics- online, 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 eg 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
- Learning portfolios – sharing learning/ achievements with family members
- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework

Years 3 & 4 (10 –15 minutes per night x 4 nights per week)

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

- Homework activities in these years will be linked to the classroom program and may include:
- Practice of English skills—spelling / writing / reading
- Reinforcement of numeracy skills :- Mathematics- online , game 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 eg interviews, surveys
- Open ended activities that involve choice and cater for individual learning styles
- Studyturf (on line) – grade 4 – sharing learning / achievements with family members
- Learning portfolio – grade 3 – share information with family
- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework

Years 5 & 6 (20-30 minutes per night x 4 nights per week, or to match due dates)

Students will be encouraged to plan and manage their homework through the use of the diary so that homework can be finished by the due date

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

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/spag/curriculum/homework/expectations.htm>
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/spag/curriculum/homework/guidelines.htm>

- Practice of English skills – Spelling / writing / reading
- Reading – Preparation for reading circles etc
- Reinforcement of numeracy learning eg Mathematics , games and puzzles
- Gathering resources, researching and collecting project material/ information across all Key Learning Areas
- Gathering data by various methods eg interviews, surveys
- Open ended activities that involve choice and cater for individual learning styles
- Studyturf (on line) - sharing learning achievements with family members
- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework

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)
- Some tasks will be open ended to cater for all types of intelligences and learning styles
- Homework in prep to year 4 will generally be set on a weekly basis so that it can be balanced with other family activities. In years 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 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 follow the specific grades homework expectations eg Grade 1 = Initial/ sign a child’s diary to record that the child has read or practiced 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...	2012
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Signed: _____
School Council President

Signed _____
School Council Executive Officer (Principal)

This policy was ratified by School Council on...	
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