



SETTLERS PRIMARY **HOMEWORK POLICY AND GUIDELINES**

RATIONALE

Homework is an important part of school at Settlers Primary. It has a number of purposes:-

- To support the learning programs at the school by allowing children time to practise, extend and consolidate concepts taught in class.
- To provide the opportunity to parents/ caregivers to see what is being taught and to be directly involved in the child's work if requested.
- To provide parents/ caregivers with better understanding of learning areas and at what level their child is in.
- To allow parents/caregivers to participate and communicate with their children about what they are learning at school.
- To establish habits of self-management and organisation which will serve students for the rest of their lives.

GUIDELINES FOR HOMEWORK

- Homework must be structured and should not exceed a certain amount of time – as recommended on the next page.
- Homework should always include reading.
- Although parents should be encouraged to be involved in homework, generally students should be able to do their own homework. Parents should not have to teach their child the homework – only guided help may be required.
- There should be a clear follow up of homework by the teacher or the purpose of homework will be lost by the student
- No penalties should be given for not doing homework as it is not mandatory. However, encouragement and incentives may be given.
- Teachers have the responsibility to ensure that students are fully aware of what their homework entails. This needs to occur not only verbally, but also in a clear, written format either on a homework sheet, printed on the board or in the student's diary.
- Communication with parents will occur through the student diary.

EXPECTATION FOR EACH YEAR LEVEL

<i>YEAR LEVEL</i>	<i>SUGGESTED TIME (this time is flexile – dependant on student and activity)</i>	<i>MAIN ACTIVITES GIVEN</i>
Kindy and PP	10 minutes	Read to on a daily basis. Literacy and Numeracy backpacks – on a rotational basis Have alphabet mastery folder Term 3 and 4 (PP)
Year 1	15 minutes	Read to on a daily basis. Practising their own reading daily Literacy and Numeracy backpacks – on a rotational basis Phonic and Spelling Lists
Year 2	20 minutes	Read to on a daily basis. Practising their own reading daily Literacy and Numeracy backpacks – on a rotational basis Phonic and Spelling Lists Practising Maths facts
Year 3	20 minutes	Practising their own reading daily Practising Spelling Lists Practising Maths time tables and consolidating facts
Year 4	30 minutes	Practising their own reading daily Practising Spelling Lists Practising Maths time tables and consolidating facts
Year 5	30minutes	Own reading daily Practising Spelling Lists Practising Maths time tables and consolidating facts Research based activities Consolidation and practise of concepts taught in class
Year 6	40 minutes	Own reading daily Practising Spelling Lists Practising Maths time tables and consolidating facts Research based activities Consolidation and practise of concepts taught in class
Year 7	40 minutes	Own reading daily Practising Spelling Lists Practising Maths time tables and consolidating facts Research based activities Consolidation and practise of concepts taught in class

- Online Teaching and Learning Systems (OTLS) is a program which was introduced in 2008. Students who participate will be able to access this from home. This program has units of work which may be accessed at home for students to work through at their own pace.

Settlers Primary strongly supports the idea of '**house homework**' as this promotes routines and structures.

Examples:-

- Set the table
- Do the dishes
- Fill or empty the dishwasher
- Put a load of washing on
- Take the rubbish out
- Clean and tidy own room
- Help cook the dinner
- Be responsible for the care of a pet

Settlers Primary also encourages **physical activity**.

Examples:-

- Go for a walk or run (with or without pet)
- Practise a new skill (maybe one from the PE lesson they had that week)
- Shoot some baskets
- Kick the footy
- Swim at the beach or pool
- Train with a team

We encourage parents to acknowledge children's efforts in both household jobs and physical activity in their diary, thus allowing teachers to share in the experience, also encouraging and supporting the child's endeavours.

PARENTS' ROLE

- Children need to opportunity to play and relax after school
- Have adequate resources at home for your child to use in order to complete his/her homework
- Homework is best done at a quiet time which is set aside
- Talk to your child about the homework
- Praise your child for their independent efforts and diligence on tasks

EVALUATION

The success of the Homework Policy will hinge on parental feedback and records of student participation.

It should be a positive experience for both children and parents and aimed at enhancing the communication between home and school.