

SUNNYBRAE NORMAL SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Adopted by BOT 15 June 1993

Reviewed June 2010

Rationale

Homework supports student learning. Skills and knowledge are consolidated, extended and enriched with the support and encouragement of parents.

Purposes

1. To reinforce knowledge and practise skills previously taught in the classroom.
2. To assist students in developing an independent attitude to study routines and the effective use of time organisation.
3. To help students and parents see an integral link between school, work and life, encouraging life long learning.
4. To encourage purposeful communication at home and to provide a positive link between home and school that enhances a student's learning.

Guidelines

1. Homework will be relevant to the individual student's needs.
2. Teacher instructions to the student (and their parents) will be clear, concise and at a level that ensures understanding. All students will maintain a reading log; from Year 3 a homework book will be used.
3. Parents are encouraged to acknowledge their child's efforts and mark their work with them.
4. Homework could be:
 - Essential learning tasks with priority given to literacy and numeracy, e.g. reading, basic facts, maths games
 - Continuing tasks commenced at school
 - The gathering of resources and/or data for forthcoming units
 - Discussion of current events
5. Homework will offer choice of activity.
6. Homework will be regularly monitored by teachers.
7. Homework will be set with the expectation that children complete homework regularly. It will be set flexibly to enable families to address their priorities and as a result is not compulsory.
8. The amount of homework will progressively increase through the year levels (Y6 should be doing approximately 30 minutes per night).
9. The school acknowledges there are many purposeful, often exciting ways, other than homework that children may spend their time on. If students are unable to complete homework, parents are encouraged to discuss with the teacher or write a note to explain non-completion.
10. Clear guidelines will be provided to parents explaining the school's expectation that they have a key role in their child's successful completion of homework.
11. Self-evaluation by students of their homework will increasingly be prioritised as students move through the year levels.

Conclusion

Homework for students should be set only when the teacher is confident that individual students have the skills, knowledge and access to the necessary resources or data to successfully complete the task.