

GREEN VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

We Aim High

HOMework POLICY

Homework should be a purposeful learning experience that should consolidate, extend and/or enrich the school's programs. Homework should be viewed as an educational activity which arises from appropriate experiences and which is seen by students as deserving attention out of normal school hours.

Homework has the potential to enhance home-school partnerships through providing a focus for student-parent discussion and informing parents of school programs. Homework should be viewed as a means of developing study habits and the revision of worthwhile school work.

OUTCOMES

Purposeful learning experiences will consolidate, enrich and extend the school's program Home-school partnerships will be furthered in the best interests of the student.

Positive study habits will be developed within the home environment, as homework teaches students to plan and organise their time.

IMPLEMENTATION

- Homework is to be carefully planned and well supervised.
- All homework set is to be corrected as soon as practicable.
- Homework should generally not be given on Fridays.
- Where formal homework is set flexibly it should avoid undue intrusion into the family.
- All students are encouraged to complete homework. Requests from parents to have their child exempt from homework requirements will be approved.
- Suggested homework allocation for each year group is on reverse of this page. (Appendix 1)

EVALUATION

Implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Principal and formally reviewed as part of the school's cyclic policy review program.

Appendix 1.

Suggested homework allocations for each year group.

- Kindergarten:** Five minutes of informal homework for up to three nights a week. This might include collecting magazine pictures or other things from home, shared reading, discussions etc.
- Year 1:** Ten minutes of mostly informal homework for up to three nights a week. Activities may include those suggested for Kindergarten as well as some basic reading, spelling and mathematics activities.
- Year 2:** Fifteen minutes of a mixture of informal and more formal homework for up to three nights a week.
- Year 3:** Fifteen to twenty minutes of formal and informal homework for up to three nights a week.
- Year 4:** Twenty minutes of formal and informal homework for three to four nights a week.
- Year 5:** Twenty-five minutes of formal homework for up to four nights a week.
- Year 6:** Twenty-five to thirty-five minutes of formal homework for up to four nights a week. This may be applied flexibly to encourage students to develop behaviours that negotiate family and personal commitments with completion dates.

As part of extensive research carried out in Stage 3, students will be given homework randomly, for example handed out Monday returned Wednesday or on occasions returned the next day. This has been done to prepare our students for high school. Students in Stage 3 have a diary where they are expected to record their homework.

Parents are in the best position to determine if assigned homework is appropriate or excessive. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any concerns about assigned homework.

Homework for students travelling overseas or on extended holidays

This can be provided for students upon request. Some suggested activities are as follows.

- Keep a diary to be written up each day.
- Keep a scrap-book, insert daily cut outs with captions.
- Keep a newspaper clippings book with comments.
- Use holiday photographs to keep a record of activities.
- Re-write news stories/books in own words.
- Provide parents with copies of planned future activities.
- Provide parents with textbooks, where available, and discuss with parents suitable sections to attempt while away.

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What Can parents Do To Help Their Child with Homework?

Parents and Caregivers can help by:

- taking an active interest in homework
- ensuring there is time set aside for homework
- encouraging and supporting students to complete homework
- providing, where possible, a dedicated place for homework and study
- communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework and their child's approach to homework
- encouraging their child to read and take an interest in current events
- alerting the school to any domestic or extra-curricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or marked.