

Rationale

- Homework is an important component of the curriculum at Newport Lakes Primary School.
- Homework enables parents to become involved in their child's / children's learning and makes them aware of the curriculum being taught at school.
- Homework provides the opportunity for students to:
 - develop skills and knowledge.
 - develop regular study habits.
 - take responsibility for their learning.
 - work independently in a self motivated way.
 - reinforce current classroom work.
 - be extended and challenged.
 - prepare for secondary school life in which homework is an integral part.

Aims

- Homework may reflect and extend the classroom program and will be based on skills already introduced as well include a balance of recreational family and cultural activities.
- Homework will provide opportunities for students to link into the wider community.
- Homework will be set in order to provide for the individual needs of students.
- Teachers will keep parents informed of the year level expectations of homework.
- The school will encourage parents to support the policy and will promote parental involvement through written and verbal communication.
- Homework may address any of the learning areas in the AusVELs.

AusVELS incorporates the Australian Curriculum F-10 for English, Mathematics, History and Science within the curriculum framework first developed for the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS).

Implementation

- Students are expected to read regularly at home.
- Homework may be set to revise, consolidate or extend specific concepts or skills.
- Homework may be set daily, weekly or on a contract basis with a specific due date.
- Family commitments will be considered when setting due dates for homework.
- Homework activities should be interesting, challenging and where appropriate, open ended.
- Parents are encouraged to review all set homework and support their child in homework tasks.

- When appropriate, parents may set additional homework through educational links on the Newport Lakes PS website (www.newportlakesps.vic.edu.au), the Education Channel website www.education.vic.gov.au/primary (FUSE) and published texts available from commercial booksellers.

Year Level Recommendations

Level 1 Prep

Homework is intended to provide an opportunity to share what is happening in the classroom with parents. It will include take home books to be read every night and may include other small tasks related to AusVels. It may not be referred to formally as 'Homework' but provides an opportunity to revise, consolidate or extend specific concepts and skills.

Level 2 Years One & Two

Homework is set with an emphasis on English and Mathematics. Other homework may be set from the AusVels. Texts should be read each week night from Monday to Thursday for up to 15 minutes. It may not be referred to formally as 'Homework' but provides an opportunity to revise, consolidate or extend specific concepts and skills.

Level 3 Years Three & Four

Homework is set with an emphasis on English and Mathematics. Other homework may be set from the AusVels. Texts should be read each week night from Monday to Thursday. Homework tasks and reading may take up to 30 minutes per day.

Level 4 Years Five & Six

Homework will be set fortnightly with an emphasis on English and Mathematics. Projects may be set across a range of the learning areas in AusVels. Set homework may take up to 30 to 45 minutes per day. The reading component can be from set texts, research materials or own choice materials

Each teaching team is to agree on how it will give feedback to students for homework - making feedback consistent from class to class and acknowledging those students who complete their homework.

Evaluation

Homework will be assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided.

Evaluation will be based upon the following:

- improved skills and knowledge in specific curriculum areas.
- demonstrated ability to utilise community resources for research.
- the development of positive study habits.
- completion of work by due date.
- quality and presentation of the work
- students increasing acceptance of responsibility for their own learning
- positive feedback from parents.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle or if guidelines change (latest update mid-March 2016).

This update was ratified by School Council on June 2016

Reference:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/pages/homework.aspx