



Kin Kora State School

Homework Policy

Homework gives students the opportunity to build upon their class work and involve family members in their learning. To help find a balance between family life and helping students reach their full potential, Kin Kora State School has outlined expectations in this Homework Policy which sets out guidelines for homework, including the amount of time students should spend on homework each week.

Prep - Year 1

- To collaboratively revise, consolidate and/or practise skills and concepts directly
- linked to the current curriculum at the child's level which may include:
 - Letter and sound recognition
 - Sight words
 - Daily reading
 - Discussing texts with QAR comprehension questions (Prep book bags)
 - Counting
 - Number study
 - Spelling and word study.
- To collaboratively complete tasks to support the current curriculum program which may include:
 - Collecting materials
 - Gathering information
 - Discussing topics.

Year 2, 3 and 4

- To revise, consolidate and/or practise skills and concepts directly linked to the current curriculum at the child's level with increasing independence which may include:
 - Reading
 - Number facts
 - Revision of weekly maths concepts
 - Spelling and word study.
- To complete tasks to support the current curriculum program with increasing independence which may include:
 - Collecting materials
 - Gathering information
 - Discussing topics.

Year 5 and 6

- To independently revise, consolidate and/or practise skills and concepts directly linked to the current curriculum at the child's level which may include:
 - Reading
 - Number facts
 - Revision of weekly maths concepts
 - Spelling and word study.



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- To independently complete tasks to support the current curriculum program which may include:
 - Collecting materials
 - Gathering information
 - Discussing topics
 - Completing unfinished work.

Time allocations

Time allocations are set according to the P-12 Curriculum Framework, available at the DET website. The times indicated are as follows.

- Prep - Year 2 could be up to but generally not more than 1 hour per week
- Years 3 and 4 could be up to but generally not more than 2-3 hours per week
- Years 5- 6 could be up to but generally not more than 3-4 hours per week.

Consistent approach

All good procedures are only effective when all parties know and understand the role they play in ensuring student success. Key roles are outlined as follows:

Teacher responsibilities

- Teachers will make clear the expectations at the start of each term.
- Expectations will be covered at the Parent Information sessions at the start of the year, and may also be included in homework book.
- All activities will revise, consolidate and/or practise skills and concepts directly linked to the current curriculum.
- Homework will focus on basic literacy and numeracy skills (as outlined in the purpose section).
- Homework will be set for a week with start day and completion day clarified at the start of year. Homework will run over a weekend so students have the opportunity to catch up if necessary. If teachers set homework Mon-Thursday, then parents are able to negotiate a submission for Monday morning.
- Weekly list for spelling and number facts will also be made explicit for the whole term at the start of each term and directly link to classroom curriculum.
- Suggested activities to learn spelling and number facts will be provided by the teacher. These may be electronic activities, games etc or work to be completed in homework book.
- Teachers will check and mark the homework each week, celebrating and reflecting on learning.
- Teachers will differentiate for different learners by some or all of the following ways:
 - Including Spelling personal words at student level
 - Utilising self-paced online programs (eg Reading Eggs , Study Ladder or Mathletics)
 - Providing home reading books at appropriate reading level
 - Providing alternate spelling and number fact activities for students significantly behind year level expectations.



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Parent and student responsibilities

- Students should ensure that they are completing tasks assigned to them, and letting parents and teachers know if the work is too easy.
- Parents and students collaborate to decide the best times for homework noting the recommended weekly time allocation and organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activities and sports, recreational and cultural activities.
- Parents should encourage children to take responsibility for their learning and organisation of time and support as follows:
 - Prep- Year 2 students complete tasks collaboratively with parents/caregivers
 - Year 3-4 students complete homework with increased independence
 - Year 5-6 students complete homework independently.
- Parents communicate with the class teacher in advance regarding any family circumstances that may potentially impact on the child's ability to complete homework. This would include situations where homework is causing undue stress or anxiety in the home environment.

Completion of work

We believe homework is the parent's opportunity to support their child with further reinforcement. We understand families have very busy lives with many commitments. At KKSS, we communicate with families to ensure homework expectations are reasonable. We also accept that this may prevent some students from attending to these tasks regularly

In regards to completion of work our focus will be

- Rewarding and acknowledging students who complete homework satisfactorily and
- Communicating with parents of those students who do not complete homework to understand the reasons for non-completion.

Guidelines include:

- Each week the class teacher will check and mark the homework, celebrating and reflecting on learning.
- Homework completion is still reported on through the End of Semester Reports.
 - To be considered for an Overall A in Behaviour on the end of semester report card, students must have completed a 100% homework complete.
 - All students are given a level of completion regardless of homework setup.
- Parents of students who have not completed homework will be sent a letter by the teacher informing them of their child's non-completion.
- Parents should communicate with the class teacher regarding any family circumstances that may potentially impact on the learner's ability to complete homework.
- Teachers and parents of students not completing homework will negotiate a plan that is mutually satisfactory.
- It is the responsibility of the teacher to set and check homework and the responsibility of the parent to support their child with homework.



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Appendix 1

Note sent to parents detailing non completion of homework.

Incomplete Homework Notification

Dear Parent,

Date: _____

This week your child was not able to submit completed homework. The child informs me that:

- Homework was forgotten/ left elsewhere.
- Homework was not attempted, or was too hard.
- Homework was not completed.

Can you please action the following:

- Help the child to locate and bring in homework tomorrow (so it can be marked and checked)
- Other: _____
- I would like you to contact me to discuss a modification to homework for your child.

As always, I am happy to discuss any possible ways we can better assist your child to complete their homework. By way of a reminder, please remember that Homework is due each week on _____.

Thanks

Class Teacher: _____

This policy was adapted with permission from the work done by Mango Hill SS, and endorsed by the Kin Kora SS Parents and Citizens association in February 2017.