

NICHOLSON STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

Policy and Statement of Practice as at 21 December, 2018 (to be reviewed Term 1, 2019)

Homework has a valuable purpose because it:

- ☑ Gives structured opportunities to practise, consolidate and extend work done in class programs
- ☑ Develops students' skills in identifying and using information resources
- ☑ Establishes and enhances habits of study, concentration, time management and self-discipline



At Nicholson Street Public School homework will be provided regularly and will:

- ☑ Reflect a student's age, ability and community and relate to what is being taught in class programs
- ☑ Encourage the use of technology without disadvantaging students who do not have access to it
- ☑ Be marked promptly and positively
- ☑ Take into account students' family and after-school commitments as appropriate
- ☑ Be the responsibility of the student supported by parents/caregivers

Types of Homework

- **Practice exercises** let students reinforce or review newly acquired skills, e.g. memorising mathematical tables, practising spelling and reading for pleasure
- **Preparatory homework** enables students to gain background information on a unit of study to better prepare them for future lessons, e.g. library research, surveys
- **Extension assignments** encourage students to pursue knowledge imaginatively, e.g. researching current events, writing a book review



Organisation and Expectations

- Homework will be set considering the developmental needs of students.
- Staff will exercise their professional judgement in selecting homework tasks to meet the needs of their students. Tasks will include open-ended activities to provide opportunities for creativity and higher order thinking.
- Deadlines for the completion of homework will be fair and negotiable. It is expected that homework be handed in on time, completed to the best of the individual student's ability. Parents will be notified if homework tasks are not handed in **or** not completed to a satisfactory standard **at the discretion of the teacher**.
- Recreational reading, spelling and learning of mathematics tables will be on-going homework for Years 1-6.

The Homework Policy will be posted on the school website and given to new students on enrolment.

Homework Duration

Kindergarten (Early Stage 1)

Home Reading will be the main form of homework but teachers may also provide homework to cater for the needs of individual students and groups as deemed appropriate. Home and play activities assist children to develop knowledge and skills. Language and number concepts can be enhanced through many family activities, e.g. shopping, food preparation, reading aloud, listening to music, story telling, etc.

Years 1&2 (Stage 1)

- Approx 15 minutes each night
- Includes reading every night
- May be set weekly or fortnightly
- May be replaced by a mini assignment.

Years 3&4 (Stage 2)

- Approx 20 minutes each night
- Includes reading every night
- May be set weekly or fortnightly
- May be replaced by a mini assignment.

Years 5&6 (Stage 3)

- Approx 30 minutes each night
- Includes reading every night
- May be set weekly or fortnightly
- May be replaced by a mini assignment.



Parents and carers can help by:

- Ensuring a regular time and place is dedicated to homework and study
- Communicating with teachers regarding any concerns or difficulties with homework
- Encouraging children to read about, research and take an interest in current events
- Reading to students, modelling reading and writing, story telling, discussions
- Alerting the school to domestic/extra-curricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration
- Helping students to develop strategies to improve time management, planning and organization skills
- Reading newsletters, returning notes and money by due dates and assisting children to get organized for school the night before

Sue Ross

R/Principal