

OFFICIAL

Homework Guidelines



2026-2028

Review date: March 2028

Background

Homework can support higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. It also extends the time available for the exploration of new ideas and new situations. Homework can also extend the time available to the teacher for the monitoring of student progress and can assist in keeping parents informed about the student's learning program and progress.

The Importance of Homework in Primary School

Homework at Swanbourne Primary School extends learning beyond the classroom by reinforcing key concepts, building independence and self-discipline, and fostering a strong home-school partnership. Purposeful, balanced tasks help consolidate new learning, strengthen long-term memory, and give families insight into student progress. Homework also supports the development of essential life skills such as organisation, persistence, and problem solving. Our approach prioritises student wellbeing by ensuring homework remains age-appropriate, meaningful, and balanced with time for rest, play, and family life.

Principles

Homework should:

- Support the development of the student's independence as a learner
- Further the partnership between school and home
- Avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student
- Be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational, cultural and employment pursuits relevant to the student's age, development and educational aspirations
- Be balanced across learning areas so as to avoid stress and overload
- Be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through the upper primary years and sustained through the secondary years
- Be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning area requirements
- Only be used to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes
- Form part of a developmental learning program that is responsive to individual needs, clearly relevant, supported by classroom practice and, where appropriate, developed in collaboration with students
- Be disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline
- Teachers are not required to set homework for holiday periods or periods of time when families choose to take holidays during term time

Roles and Responsibilities

The Principal is responsible for developing and implementing a documented school approach to homework that is: Consistent with the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline* and school plans

- Developed in consultation with the school staff and parents and endorsed by the school Board
- Regularly communicated to students and parents
- Includes general guidelines for parents, where appropriate, as to how they can support and assist their children and
- Supported and implemented by all staff

Scope of Homework at Swanbourne Primary School

Year	Options for Homework Content	Estimated Time
K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent reading daily • News Prep for news day • Comprehension Packs 	10 mins
PP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent reading daily • Read and sound cards (tricky words) • Home readers • Sound Books • Comprehension Packs 	10-15 mins
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent reading daily • Home readers – (3 per week) • Tricky words – (starting Term 2) • Spelling activities (Soundwaves) • Mathematics • Comprehension Packs • News focus each term (topic aligned with curriculum) • Check diary for further information 	10-15 mins
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home readers daily • Spelling activities (Soundwaves) • Mathematics • Check diary for further information 	15-20 mins
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home readers • Chapter book for independent reading • Spelling activities (Soundwaves) • Maths review sheet • Mathematics • Check diary for further information 	20-30 mins
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class novels and notes • Independent reading • Spelling and Vocabulary activities • Relevant research as needed for projects and specialty subjects • Mathematics showing working out • Check diary for further information 	20-30 mins
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class novels and notes • Independent reading • Spelling and Vocabulary activities • Grammar & Literacy sheet • Relevant research as needed for projects and specialty subjects • Mathematics showing working out • Check diary for further information 	20-30 mins
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Novels and notes • Independent reading • Spelling activities (Soundwaves) • Sentences related to current writing topic (using spelling list) • Mathematics showing working out • Relevant research as needed for projects and specialty subjects • Check diary for further information 	20-30 mins