

## Homework Policy

At Taranganba State School we recognise that homework provides students with opportunities to:

- *consolidate their classroom learning*
- *establish positive behaviours for lifelong learning beyond the classroom*
- *involve and inform family members in their learning*
- *develop effective time management skills*

We value homework that:

- *enhances student learning*
- *is purposeful and relevant to students' needs*
- *is appropriate to the students' year level*
- *develops independence as a learner*
- *clearly relates to class work*
- *consolidates literacy and numeracy skills*

### **GUIDELINES**

Our school community recognises that the homework requirements for students may vary according to year level, a child's individual learning needs and the classroom focus at any given time.

Homework is intended to engage students in independently and may encompass/include:

- *revision and critical reflection to consolidate learning (practising for mastery)*
- *applying knowledge and skills in new contexts (a topic of interest, an authentic local issue)*
- *pursuing knowledge individually (investigating, researching, writing, designing, making)*
- *preparing for forthcoming classroom learning (collecting relevant materials and items).*

### **Prep to Year 2**

In Years Prep to Year 2, homework is generally not more than 1 hour per week. Many activities at home can assist children to develop literacy, numeracy and problem-solving skills. Homework tasks may include:

- *daily reading with parents/caregivers or other family members*
- *numeracy revision*
- *literacy revision*
- *writing for meaningful purposes*
- *conversations about what is happening at school*

### **Year 3 to Year 6**

Homework in Year 3 and Year 4 could be up to but generally not more than 2-3 hours per week. Homework in Year 5 and Year 6 could be up to but generally not more than 3- 4 hours per week. Some homework can be completed daily or over a weekly or fortnightly period and may include:

- *daily independent reading*
- *extension of class work – Literacy and numeracy*
- *Grammar, punctuation, vocabulary or morphology*
- *Number facts, operations and place value work*



### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Teachers:

Teachers can help students establish a routine of regular, independent study by:

- *ensuring their school's homework policy is implemented*
- *setting homework on a regular basis*
- *clearly communicating the purpose, benefits and expectations of homework*
- *Setting homework that is directly related to class work and appropriate to students' learning needs*
- *explicitly teaching strategies to develop organisational and time-management skills and providing opportunities to practice these strategies through homework*
- *considering other academic and personal development activities (school based or other) that students could be engaged in when setting homework*
- *discussing with parents and caregivers any developing problems concerning their child's homework and suggesting strategies to assist with their homework.*

#### Students:

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- *discussing with their parents/caregivers homework expectations*
- *returning homework consistently*
- *accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks*
- *seeking assistance when difficulties arise*
- *organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports and recreational and cultural activities.*

#### Parents and Caregivers:

Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

- *showing a positive interest in their classroom work and achievements*
- *reading to them, talking with them and involving them in tasks at home*
- *helping them to complete tasks by discussing key questions or directing them to resources*
- *encouraging them to organise their time and take responsibility for their learning and balance their homework with other activities.*
- *encouraging them to read and to take an interest in and discuss current local, national and international events*
- *establishing routines at home to complete homework*
- *contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to the homework*