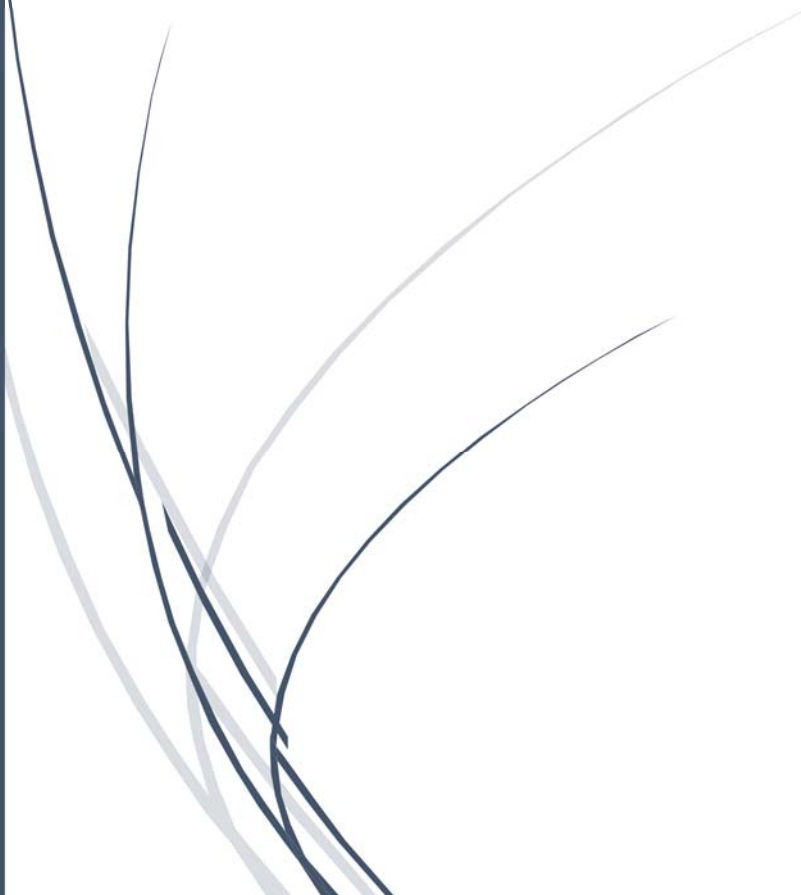




Benarkin

State School

BENARKIN STATE SCHOOL – Homework Policy



Background

Homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, pattern behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning. The setting of homework takes into account the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, sport, culture, recreation, and part-time employment where appropriate.



Prep - Year 3

In Prep to Year 3, many activities at home or in play can assist children to develop literacy, numeracy and problem-solving skills.

Homework tasks may include:

- Daily reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or other family members.
- Linking concepts with familiar activities such as shopping, preparation of food, local environment and family outings.
- Conversations about what is happening at school.
- Opportunities to write for meaningful purpose.

In the Prep Year - generally students will not be set homework.

In Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 - set homework could be up to but not generally more than 1 hour per week.

Year 4 - Year 6

In Year 4 to Year 9 some homework can be completed daily or set over a weekly or fortnightly period and may:

- Include daily independent reading.
- Be coordinated across different subject areas.
- Include extension of class work, projects and research.

Homework in Year 4 and Year 5 - up to but generally not more than 2 to 3 hours per week.

Homework in Year 6 - up to but not generally more than 3 to 4 hours per week.

Purpose of Homework

Homework can engage students in independent learning to complete work undertaken in class through:

- Revision and reflection to consolidate learning by applying knowledge and skills in new contexts.
- Pursuing knowledge individually and imaginatively.
- Preparing for forthcoming classroom learning.

Homework that enhances student learning:

- Is purposeful and relevant to students' needs.
- Is appropriate to the Phase of Learning (*Early, Middle, Senior*).
- Is appropriate to the capacity of the student.
- Develops the student's independence as a learner.
- Is varied, challenging and clearly related to the class work.

Student Responsibilities

- Discuss with their parents or caregivers homework expectations.
- Accept responsibility for the completion of homework expectations within set time frames.
- Follow up on comments made by teachers.
- Seek assistance when difficulties arise.
- Organise time to manage and balance home expectations, participation in physical activity and sport, cultural and recreational activities and part-time employment.



Staff Responsibilities

- Set homework/home study on a regular basis.
- Clearly communicate the purpose, benefits and expectations of all homework/home study.
- Check homework regularly and providing timely and useful feedback.
- Use homework that is varied, challenging, directly related to class work and appropriate to students' learning needs.
- Explicitly teach strategies to develop organisational and time management skills and providing opportunities to practise these strategies through homework.
- Give consideration to other academic and personal development activities (*school based or other*) that students could be engaged in when setting homework.
- Discuss with parents and caregivers any developing problems concerning their child's homework and suggest strategies to assist with their homework.

Parent Responsibilities

- Read with their child, talk to them and involve them in tasks at home including shopping, playing games and musical instruments and physical activity.
- Help their child to complete tasks by discussing key questions or direct them to resources.
- Encourage their child to organise their time and take responsibility for their own learning.
- Encourage their child to read and to take an interest in and discuss current local, national and international events.
- Helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games, playing sport and music and engaging in other recreational activities.
- Contact the relevant teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of homework.