



# Homework

Homework assists students by complementing and reinforcing the teaching and learning program. It provides students with the opportunity to develop positive life long learning habits as well as reinforcing the importance of responsibility and independence. These guidelines sit within the context of the Department of Education Policy for Homework (available online at [www.education.wa.edu.au](http://www.education.wa.edu.au)).

## **At Ranford Primary we believe that homework should:**

- Support the development of the student's independence as a life long learner.
- Be appropriate for the student's level of development – consolidating and applying current learning.
- Strengthen the home school partnership in supporting learning.
- Be able to be completed independently, (perhaps with the student seeking support by showing problem solving initiative).
- Acknowledge the range of resources available to students.
- Acknowledge extra curricula commitments outside school hours.
- Gradually phase in over the years.
- Include daily reading (aloud to parents in the early years).
- Receive acknowledgment and recognition (by the teacher).
- Contribute positively towards motivating learning at all times.

## **Parents' Role**

- Assist with allocating and reinforcing a scheduled time for homework.
- Provide a suitable space to limit distractions.
- Maintain resources required – pencils, pens, scissors ...
- Discuss the homework requirements with their child.
- Check and sign the Communication Diary.
- Praise, encourage and provide assistance as required.
- Insist on and support an appropriate level of independence and responsibility while homework is being completed.
- Resist taking responsibility for homework tasks.
- Communicate with the class teacher should concerns arise.
- Avoid coercion, bribery and arguments – see the teacher for alternative strategies to motivate your child if required.

## **Student's Role**

- Attend to instructions about homework provided by the classroom teacher.
- Demonstrate initiative and problem solving skills when attempting and completing homework.
- Accept the importance of homework in reinforcing learning skills taught in the classroom.
- Demonstrate responsibility by caring for materials required to complete homework, such as home readers, pencils, pens, and the like.
- Submit homework according to the instructions of the teacher.
- Communicate as required with parents and share homework with them as appropriate. Ensure the school Communication Diary is shared with parents.

## **Teacher's Role**

- Ensure all set homework is understood and able to be completed by the student.
- Acknowledge the completion of homework and provide timely feedback to the student.
- Provide homework which challenges able students and supports those with learning difficulties.
- Include a variety of homework tasks to maintain student motivation and engagement.
- Provide communication to parents about homework requirements.
- Liaise with English as a Second Language support staff for strategies related to those students whose English may impact on their ability to complete set homework tasks, or to develop alternative tasks.
- Include discussions about homework in case conference for those students with Individual Education Plans.
- Be aware of circumstances which may prevent a child from completing homework tasks and consider these when providing feedback.
- Accept circumstances that may impact on the student's ability or capacity to complete homework tasks.

(\* Teachers are not required to set homework for holiday periods or periods of time when families choose to take holidays during term time.

\*\* Homework routines will vary from class to class and over the year levels as indicated on the following table. Homework may not necessarily be set every night, however, it is desirable to encourage the habit of reading regularly each night.)

Year	Time	Homework Options
<b>Kindergarten</b>	10 – 15 minutes	Shared reading Phonics Maths Project / research tasks News telling
<b>Pre-Primary</b>	15 – 20 minutes	Shared reading Phonics Maths Project / research tasks News telling
<b>Year 1</b>	20 – 25 minutes	Shared reading Phonics Maths Project / research tasks News telling
<b>Year 2</b>	20 – 25 minutes	Shared reading Phonics Maths Project / research tasks News telling
<b>Year 3</b>	20 – 30 minutes	Shared reading Phonics / Spelling Maths / Mental Maths Project / research tasks News telling
<b>Year 4</b>	20 – 30 minutes	Shared reading Phonics / Spelling Maths / Mental Maths Project / research tasks News
<b>Year 5</b>	30 – 40 minutes	Shared reading Silent reading Phonics / Spelling Maths / Mental Maths Project / research tasks News / Current Events
<b>Year 6</b>	30 – 40 minutes	Shared reading Silent reading Spelling Maths / Mental Maths Project / research tasks News / Current Events
<b>Year 7</b>	50 – 60 minutes	Silent reading Novel Study Spelling Maths / Mental Maths Project / research tasks News / Current Events