



Bungaree Primary School Homework Policy

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Bungaree Primary School's policy requirements relating to homework.

Scope

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Bungaree Primary School.

Rationale

Bungaree Primary School has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the school council to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- providing opportunities for students to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills,
- providing opportunities for students to apply new knowledge,
- providing opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons,
- encouraging students to enrich or extend knowledge individually, collectively and imaginatively,
- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers.

Definitions

Homework - is tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

Policy

At Bungaree Primary School all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful,
- curriculum-aligned,
- appropriate to students' skill level and age,
- designed to help students develop as independent learners,
- monitored by the teacher, and
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

Prep to Year 2

In the early years, the objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time.

Students in Years Prep to 2 will complete daily home reading with a combination of levelled home readers and high-interest books that the students self-select. It is our aim in the home reading program to not only practise reading skills learned at school, but to also develop a strong love of reading with families.

Students may also be asked to complete short, supportive literacy and numeracy tasks.

Prep to Year 2 homework tasks could be (but are not limited to):

- Home reader book. Recording of the title and reading notes, and where possible, The Resilience Project daily reflections in home reading diaries.
- Short literacy/numeracy tasks - may include reading for pleasure, sight word practice, practising weekly spelling words, number knowledge practise.

Students are generally not expected to complete more than 20 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Year 3 to Year 6

In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative. Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading. Other tasks will be related to the learning in the classroom.

Year 3-6 homework tasks could be (but are not limited to):

- Independent reading, reading for pleasure and completing home reader/novel study book prior to class discussion. Recording of the title and reading notes, and where possible, The Resilience Project daily reflections in home reading diaries.
- Practising weekly spelling words.
- Preparation/completion of work for a specialist subject unit and/or researching topics associated with set class work.
- Mathematics exercises and consolidation of classroom work.
- Finishing off work not completed in the classroom.

Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Individual Learning Plans and Homework

Students may require some extra assistance and follow up at home in support of their Individual Learning Plan. eg. A student who is participating in Boost Camp or Speech Assistance may have some home tasks to complete. If this is required, staff will contact parents and it will be included as part of their Individual Learning Plan.

Shared Expectations and Responsibilities

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. In order to get the most out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Responsibilities and expectations for **leaders** at Bungaree Primary School are to:

- advise teachers, students and parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with access to the homework policy.

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers** at Bungaree Primary School are to:

- set homework that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age,
- ensure homework tasks are purposeful - this means they are deliberately designed and planned to support student learning (so, they are not 'busy work' or where students 'finish off' work they did/could not complete in class),
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback,
- ensure the amount of homework set supports a student to engage with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities outside of school hours, and
- offer opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- being aware of the school's homework policy,
- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers,
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames,
- following up on comments made by teachers,
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise, and
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment (for older students).

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are:

- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities,
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework,
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home,

- in dialogue, linking homework to:
 - previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had,
 - family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s),
 - relevant services, clubs, associations and community, and
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

Support for Students and Parents/Carers

Bungaree Primary School understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If parents/carers are concerned their child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child's teacher.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.