

DORSET PRIMARY SCHOOL - HOMEWORK POLICY

PURPOSE

To outline to teachers, aides, parents/guardians and students Dorset's expectations for homework and at-home learning in accordance with the Department guidelines.

POLICY

Dorset Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students. Teachers are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for individual students.

GUIDELINES

Foundation to Year 4

In the early years, the objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time. It is also intended to introduce the concepts of self-discipline and responsibility and prepare them for the senior grades.

Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/guardians or older siblings.

Students are **generally** not expected to complete more than **30 minutes** of homework per day and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Year 5 to Year 6

In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school.

Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading and may include extension assignments.

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.

Teachers and parents should encourage self-motivated homework.

Teachers at Dorset Primary School will:

- set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- when the homework is not regularly completed, classrooms teachers and co-ordinators will ensure it is completed at an agreed upon time between the teachers.
- where the homework is not regularly completed, this will be communicated to the parents/guardians requesting their support in this matter

It is expected that parents/guardians will support their children by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- ensuring upper primary students keep a homework diary
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks.
- it is requested that parents **sign homework** as an indication of involvement and support.
- speaking to their child's teachers, or Year Level Coordinator if they do not understand the homework tasks that have been set for him or her, or is spending a long period of time completing their homework

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on March 2018 and is scheduled for review on March 2019