

# Dernancourt School Homework Policy

Learning is a lifelong process and children benefit when families and schools work in partnership. At Dernancourt School we value the active support and involvement of parents in the education process; this includes regular work at home (homework) is undertaken.

## RATIONALE

We believe that homework:

- Reaffirms the role of parents and caregivers as **partners** in education
- Provides parents and caregivers with **insights** into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their child
- Provides parents with opportunities to **share** in their child's learning
- Strengthens **home-school links**
- Allows for **practicing, extending and consolidating** work done in class
- Provides **training** for students in planning and organising their time
- Establishes **habits** of study, concentration and self-discipline which will serve students for the rest of their lives
- Provides students with opportunities to **complete tasks** begun in class
- Plays an **essential role** in children's learning and academic progress
- Is a **valuable** part of schooling

<p><b>R-2</b></p> <p><b>Reading</b> is to be heard each night of the school week (using readers set by the teacher at a level which the child can read independently)</p> <p><b>Activities</b> which relate to classroom programs (e.g. learning sight-words, spelling, preparing oral language presentations) may be set as required</p> <p>15-20 minutes/night</p>	<p>Formal homework may be limited in Reception. However, many activities at home and in play can assist a child to develop a wide range of knowledge and skills. Language and number concepts can be introduced and practised in many family activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shopping</li> <li>• Reading and library borrowing</li> <li>• Writing letters and speaking with relatives on the phone</li> <li>• Listening to stories, learning songs and nursery rhymes</li> <li>• Conversations</li> <li>• Family outings</li> <li>• Some computer games and apps</li> <li>• Playing card and board games with siblings</li> <li>• Collecting items like stamps, coins, things for oral presentations</li> <li>• Helping to prepare food.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Year 3 &amp; 4</b></p> <p><b>Reading</b> is to be heard each night of the school week (using readers set by the teacher at a level which the child can read in dependently).</p> <p>Children are also expected to practise <b>spelling</b> words and undertake other activities related to their curriculum as required.</p> <p><b>Numeracy</b> practice should occur at least once a week.</p> <p>Homework averages out to no more than:</p> <p>Year 3 20-25 minutes/night</p> <p>Year 4 25-30 minutes/night</p>	<p><b>Year 5 &amp; 6</b></p> <p><b>Reading</b> for pleasure should be done each night; some students at least once a week.</p> <p>Children are also expected to practise <b>spelling</b> words and undertake other activities related to their curriculum as required.</p> <p><b>Numeracy</b> practice should occur at least once a week.</p> <p>Homework averages out to no more than:</p> <p>Year 5 30-40 minutes/night</p> <p>Year 6 30-40 minutes/night</p>

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## RESPONSIBILITIES OF TEACHERS

- Students are given opportunity to write homework in their diaries
- A realistic time expectation is placed on the completion of homework
- Where large projects (primary years and middle school students) are issued as homework, the written criteria for assessment are provided to the students at the start of the project
- If homework is given, it is checked/marked and feedback is given (relative to the size of the homework).

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS

- Students write their homework in diaries daily
- Primary and Middle School students will communicate with their teacher any issues early if there are any difficulties in completing the homework in the set time.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

- Parents encourage students to complete their homework and check their diaries daily
- Communicate any issues regarding home work with the classroom teacher
- Parents may chose to complete additional "homework" with their child at home.

## SOME ADVICE TO PARENTS

- **Communicate any concerns** with the class teacher as soon as possible if your child is having difficulty with the content or the completion of homework
- Homework is best done at **a quiet time, set aside for homework** completion
- Completing homework in front of the **television is not recommended**
- Typically children will become more **independent** and **responsible** for their homework as they reach primary and middle school years, especially if **good habits** have been established in the early years
- Any issues regarding the quantity or type of homework should be addressed per our School Grievance Policy.