

Dernancourt School Homework Policy

Rationale

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, including the role they play in preparing students for formal schooling and supporting homework tasks.

We believe that homework:

- Reaffirms the role of parents and caregivers as partners in education
- Provides parents and caregivers with insights into what is 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

General Guidelines

	Years R-2	Years 3-4	Years 5-6
Suggested time per night (mins)	10-15	20-25	30-40
Reading nightly	Reading aloud aligned to phonics program	Reading aloud a well matched text	Reading own choice for enjoyment/interest
Other Activities including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths • Spelling • Preparing oral presentations • Completing class work • Activity rubrics 	Undertaken as required by teacher	Undertaken as required by teacher	Undertaken as required by teacher

Responsibilities of Teachers

- Students are given opportunity to write homework in diary or homework books per class requirements
- Communicate with students and caregivers the class homework requirements at least once a term e.g. use of activity charts
- Homework is regularly checked/marked and feedback is given (relative to the size of the homework)
- Where large projects are issued as homework, the criteria for assessment is provided to the students at the start of the project and a realistic time expectation is given.

Responsibilities of Students

- Students to ensure they understand the homework requirements of them.
- Students to document what tasks have been undertaken.
- Primary 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

- Receive communication from teachers regarding homework (See Saw, letters home etc)
- Parents encourage students to complete their homework
- Communicate any issues regarding homework with the classroom teacher
- Parents may provide additional “homework” to complete with their child at home. A resource that may be useful for learning at home <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/our-learning-sa>

Some Advice to Parents

- Communicate any concerns with homework to the class teacher as soon as possible if your child is having difficulty with the content or the completion of a task
- Homework is best done at a quiet time set aside for homework completion
- Typically, children will become more independent and responsible for their homework as they reach primary and middle school, especially if good habits have been established in the early years.
- Teachers value the help that parents provide with homework and the partnership developed in learning. The learning that is completed at home needs to reflect the student’s work.

Key messages about reading

Make reading at home a special time for your child by:

- reading to them on a regular basis, for example at bedtime or following an after-school snack
- reading to your child in your home language
- discussing stories and predicting what might happen next
- during and after reading asking the 5 Ws – who, what, where, when, and why
- talking about different or unusual words
- providing a quiet place for them to read.

When you read to your child, you help them:

- hear the language written in books
- learn new information
- understand new and unfamiliar situations
- progress at school.

Take your child to the local library. Help them borrow books on topics they are interested in. Check out the [Premier’s Reading Challenge](#) website to choose books at your child’s year level.

Read the department’s:

- [helping children learn in the primary years](#) for more tips on reading together as a family
- [literacy and numeracy resources for families](#) for more reading resources.