

HOMEWORK

POLICY

Rationale:

- The purpose of the Homework Policy is to provide guidelines for the provision, delivery and consistency for each year level, ensuring that all students, teaching staff and parents have a common understanding of what is required for each year level.

Aims:

- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To cultivate positive study habits, including organisational and time management skills.
- To develop a responsibility for self-learning.
- For homework to be purposeful and appropriate.
- Parents, teachers and students all accept responsibility to ensure the completion of homework tasks.

Implementation:

- The school's homework policy will be distributed to parents at the commencement of each school year and be placed on the website for viewing.
- Classroom teachers will set homework appropriate to each child's skill level and age.
- Homework activities should be challenging and where appropriate, open-ended.
- All homework activities must be assessed with feedback (verbal or written) and support provided by teachers.
- Homework may be a weekly task incorporating a weekend. This is not in line with Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) recommendations, but Montmorency South P.S. policy group, consisting of interested parents and School Councillors, felt that homework set during weekends gave parents an opportunity to support their child.

Prep – Year 2

- Homework should not exceed 30 minutes per day or 2.5 hours per week.
- This will mainly consist of daily reading with and by parents, simple support/extension tasks associated with classroom activities, such as, spelling words, Mathletics, RazKids or parent/student initiated homework tasks.

Years 3-4

- Homework should not exceed 40 minutes per day or 3 hours per week. This is not in line with DEECD recommendations, but Montmorency South P.S. policy group, consisting of interested parents and School Councillors, felt that extra time was needed in the year 3-4. (See second page for DEECD recommendations). This will mainly consist of daily reading with and by parents, support/extension of classroom activities including spelling, Mathletics, RazKids and assignment tasks or parent/teacher initiated homework tasks. Children in Years 3-4 will use iPads to record homework, dates and communication from parents and teachers.

Years 5–6

Homework should not exceed 45 minutes per day or 3.5 hours per week.

This will include daily independent reading, support/extension of class work including spelling, Mathletics, projects and research or parent/teacher initiated homework tasks Children in Years 5-6 will use iPads to record homework, dates and communication from parents and teachers.

Examples of teacher initiated homework tasks:

- Reading for meaning
- Projects, research, contract work
- Learning tasks, assignment work
- Writing reports, stories, poems, charting material
- Collecting information, newspapers, media, radio, TV etc
- Vocabulary and work study
- Maths activities that consolidate and encourage problem solving, tables
- Completion of class work

Additional activities to be completed at home

- Shared bedtime stories and storytelling, including retelling stories
- Family games, activities, outings and pursuit of personal interests
- Involvement with community activities
- Visits to the local library
- Maths activities related to real life situations eg: shopping, cooking etc.
- Instrumental practise
- Play educational apps on iPads

These activities listed above are not compulsory. They are examples of family activities that can be undertaken to support teacher set homework.

Helpful strategies parents can use to support their children

- Show interest
- Keep homework in perspective – play and exercise are important
- Praise effort and achievements
- Make provision for privacy, correct lighting and a good writing surface
- Make sure your children have sufficient sleep

Strategies to avoid

- Don't stress completion nor make comparison
- Don't shield or over protect your children from every difficulty

- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities for completion during part of lunchtime and recess. Parents will be notified if this is a regular occurrence.

Expectations

The role of the student:

- Accept responsibility for the completion of homework, to the best of his/her ability.
- Seek assistance from his or her family and or class teacher if necessary.

Role of the teacher

- Set regular homework to help students establish a home study routine.
- Provide explanation of homework task via homework book or ipad.
- Assess homework and provide practical feedback and support.
- Make effective use of reading logs and iPads calendar/diary.
- Notify parents if homework is not completed.
- Help students to develop the organisational and time management skills needed for them to be responsible for their own learning.
- Ensure parents and care-givers are aware of the school's homework policy.

Consequences for not completing homework

1. A reminder for homework to be received by the next school day.
2. Time allocated during ½ of the student lunch break until work is completed as students are given ample time to complete homework tasks.

Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....		
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This policy is due to be reviewed by School Council in....		
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Department Homework - Expectations	
Years	
Prep to Year 4	should not be seen as a chore enables the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings will generally not exceed 30 minutes a day or be set on weekends or during vacations.
Year 5 to 9	should include daily independent reading should be coordinated across subjects in secondary schools to avoid unreasonable workloads for students may extend class work, projects and assignments, essays and research will generally range from: 1. 30 to 45 minutes a day at Year 5 2. 45 to 90 minutes a day in Year 9.