



BEAUMONT ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Rationale

Homework is a valuable part of schooling. It is important for students of all ages, as it helps them build on what they have already learnt in the classroom and prepares them for the next stage in their learning.

Beaumont Road Public School's Homework Policy has been written within the guidelines of the Department of Education and Training's policy statement on homework.

Aims

- ◆ To practise, extend and consolidate work done in class
- ◆ To provide training for students in planning and organising time
- ◆ To reinforce skills in identifying and using information resources
- ◆ To establish habits of study, concentration and self-discipline which will serve students for the rest of their lives
- ◆ To strengthen home-school links
- ◆ To reaffirm the role of parents and caregivers as partners in education
- ◆ To provide parents and caregivers with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their children
- ◆ To further develop interests, knowledge and skills appropriate to student level
- ◆ To challenge and extend gifted and talented children

Implementation

The amount of time that students are expected to spend on homework will depend upon the age, ability and extracurricular activities of students.

Classroom teachers will establish homework routines and plan homework activities as part of their class teaching and learning programs. Routines and expectations will be communicated to students and parents at the beginning of the school year.

Homework activities may include:

- ◆ practice exercises, providing students with the opportunities to apply new knowledge, or review, revise and reinforce new skills, e.g. consolidating math's facts, mastering spelling words, reading for pleasure;

- ◆ preparatory work, providing opportunities for students to gain background information on a unit of study so that they are better prepared for future lessons, e.g. researching topics, collecting items ; and/or
- ◆ extension activities, encouraging students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively, e.g. writing a book review, making or designing something, using information and retrieval skills or a physical activity.

Teachers will mark homework promptly, maintain homework records and provide feedback to students and parents, as appropriate.

Early Stage 1/Stage 1 (Kindergarten – Year 2)

In Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) reading is the main form of homework. Children are encouraged to read each day for 5–10 minutes. Generally teachers will not set formal homework in this stage. Self-directed play in unstructured time is important. Language and number concepts are introduced and consolidated in many family activities, including shopping, preparation of food, listening to stories, learning songs and nursery rhymes, conversations about what is happening at school, interactive video and computer programs and card and board games.

In later Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) more formal homework tasks may be set, for example maths and spelling activities as well as reading for approximately 10 minutes every night. As a guide, in Stage 1 approximately 20 minutes daily should be spent on homework tasks, including reading.

Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) and Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6)

As students progress, they are expected to increasingly work independently on their homework, with continued guidance and assistance from teachers and parents, particularly in the development of study skills.

Although most homework is likely to be set in the areas of English, Mathematics and Human Society and its Environment, it could be set across all areas of the curriculum.

As a guide, Stage 2 students should spend approximately 30 minutes a day on homework tasks, including reading practice. Stage 3 students are expected to spend approximately 45 minutes daily on homework, including reading.

In cases where a student consistently takes longer than the recommended time the classroom teacher should be consulted and difficulties investigated.

Generally, homework will not be set on weekends.