Department of Education
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

APPLECROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Applecross Primary School

Homework Policy

At Applecross Primary School we believe that homework is a valuable practice as part of schooling. It provides opportunities to practise skills developing understanding, fluency and accuracy that support classroom learning. Over time, homework routines can also assist students to develop executive functioning processes required for study, such as organisation and time management. Homework also supports school-home relationships through connecting families with the learning of their children.

We believe that the setting of homework needs to take into consideration the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle and positive wellbeing. Time away from a busy school day can provide an opportunity to reset for the next day. This includes sufficient time for family, sport and recreation, and cultural pursuits while developing skills for life.

Review: March 2024

Principles

Formal Homework should:

- complement and reinforce classroom learning and teaching programmes and be appropriate to the needs of the students.
- support the development of the student's independence as a learner.
- further the partnership between school and home.

At Home Tasks are those activities that require students to collect information or objects from home or practice a presentation to contribute to an in class lesson.

Teachers may identify gaps and delays in learning and, on occasion, recommend extra practice.

Essential Components of Formal Homework

We expect that **reading** will form an essential part of every student's daily routine at home. This includes "learning to read", "reading to learn" and "reading for enjoyment".**Number knowledge and skills** is improved by practice beginning with number knowledge, number operations and through to problem solving strategies.

A **homework routine** is encouraged, occurring regularly throughout the week. The length of time is dependent on the child's developmental level and age beginning with about 5 minutes in Pre-Primary and increasing to 15 minutes by Year 3 and 20 minutes by Year 6.

Responsibilities of Teachers

- Be aware of the school's homework policy and ensure it is implemented and followed. Develop Year Level homework plan across all classes.
- Ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy and clearly communicate their expectations for homework to parents and students at the beginning of each year.
- Ensure homework that is set is understood and can be completed by the student.
- Modify tasks taking into consideration learning difficulties and/or EAL/D.
- Teach students organisational and time management skills.
- Be mindful of circumstances that may prevent a child from completing homework tasks.
- Provide flexible options for students to cater for varied access to resources and technology.
- Provide regular overviews to parents of teaching/learning topics and concepts in parent friendly language. Provide additional information that supports parents to engage with their child about their learning.

Teachers are not required to set homework over holiday periods or at times where students are taken on in-term vacation breaks.

Responsibilities of Students

- be aware of the school's homework policy and their class expectations.

Responsibilities of Parents

- Be aware of and support the school's homework policy.
- Regularly check teacher communication (Class Connect, take home boxes, diaries).
- Encourage their child to complete homework.
- Discuss homework activities and expectations with their children.
- Providing a work area (with resources e.g., pens, pencils, ruler, eraser etc.) and a supportive environment (e.g., free from major distractions), together with a routine that fits with the family.
- Support child to use accommodations for learning difficulties.
- Supervising 'eLearning', including ICT tools and usage.
- Support your child to develop an age-appropriate level of independence in completing homework.
- Encourage, praise, and provide guidance and support as required.
- Contact the relevant teacher/s to discuss any concerns about homework.
- Support At Home Tasks.