



Homework Policy Statement

Rationale:

Living Waters Lutheran School recognises that learning is an on-going process which takes place in a variety of situations including the home and hence encourages students to complete homework.

Homework:

- is purposeful out of class learning that seeks to enhance their education.
- provides feedback for teachers about student learning
- provides an opportunity for students to share their learning with their families
- allows for practising, consolidating and extending work done in class
- provides opportunity for students to initiate work or study of their own choice
- helps children develop long term habits of learning, studying, planning and time management techniques
- establishes independent learning skills, concentration and self-discipline

Responsibilities:

The PRINCIPAL shall:

- oversee the implementation and review of the policy
- ensuring it is consistent with the Curriculum Framework and school plans
- ensuring it is supported and implemented by all staff and communicated effectively to parents.

The TEACHER shall:

- plan homework to be explicit, purposeful, student centred, diversified and inclusive
- set, correct and provide helpful feedback in terms of achievement and how to further develop skills
- consider the different roles and circumstances of parents, families and students
- provide clear class homework procedures and communicate these explicitly to both parents and students
- keep individual homework records and are to communicate these to the parent/caregiver on request.
- have high expectations that all pupils complete the work set and apply set procedures when homework is not completed
- follow up and communicate with parents if the child is consistently not completing homework
- develop strategies to improve home study practices for those children experiencing difficulty

The STUDENT shall:

- accept responsibility for meeting the homework requirements
- give the same level of effort and presentation as would be expected of class work
- ask for assistance from teacher and family if necessary; and ensure the work is handed in for marking
- where applicable, complete homework reading log
- ask parents to sign the reading log and/or communication diary.

The PARENT shall:

- support their child in their homework by providing the time, space and resources required within the home
- communicate with the class teacher any concerns regarding the homework

Guidelines:

How much time should be spent on homework?

To cater for the individual skills and competence of children as well as their commitments to other outside school activities, an average amount of time spent per week on homework is suggested. This would be within the following range:

Year	Reading	Other work	Total per night	Total per week
1	10 mins	5 mins	15 mins	40 + 20 = 60 mins
2	10 mins	10 mins	20 mins	40 + 40 = 80 mins
3	10 mins	20 mins	30 mins	40 + 80 = 120 mins
4	15 mins	20 mins	35 mins	60 + 80 = 140 mins
5	20 mins	25 mins	45 mins	80 + 100 = 180 mins
6	20 mins	30 – 40 mins	60 mins	80 + 160 = 240 mins

If a student is unable to complete the set work in the given time allocation parents/caregivers are asked to communicate with the class teacher to discuss any problems and possible solutions.

Homework for Transition

In general, formal homework in Transition will consist of a range of activities that reinforce letters and sounds.

Homework for Years 1-2

Written work may be given to students in Years 1 and 2 to assist in the reinforcement of concepts and work treated in class. For Year 1, this is very minimal. For example it may consist of learning sight words. In Year 2 more formal homework is usually set. For example, students may be asked to complete simple computations, to copy letters or words, or to complete an activity sheet. It is also expected that children will read aloud daily as part of their 10-20 minute homework schedule. Students are encouraged to keep a record of material read.

Homework for Years 3-6

Homework in Years 3-6 will be varied and students will be expected to work more independently. However, teachers will still provide guidance and assistance to students having difficulties completing their homework. Much of the homework will be in English, Mathematics and Thinking Skills. However, it can be set across all areas of the curriculum. Small research tasks may be given to students in Years 3 to 6, but only after they have been taught the necessary research skills. Daily reading is also expected as part of their homework routine and students are encouraged to keep a record of material read.

Evaluation:

Evaluation of the Homework Policy is to be on-going. Close liaison should occur between the Teaching and Learning Coordinator, teacher, child and parent/caregiver in relation to the set homework. Students will receive feedback on their homework and continued praise of successes will be part of this policy. Parents/caregivers will be encouraged to share in the learning process with their child.