



# KENSINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

## **Policy Requirements**

Kensington Public School Homework Policy has been developed with reference to the Department of Education (DoE) Homework Policy. The DoE Homework Policy guidelines are available at:

[https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/associated-documents/Hwk\\_Pol\\_guide.pdf](https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/associated-documents/Hwk_Pol_guide.pdf).

## **Rationale**

Homework is a valuable part of schooling. It allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class. Homework provides training for students in planning and organising time and develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources. Additionally, it establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline.

## **Guidelines**

1. In building up a home study pattern, it is important that a student make maximum use of limited time. The ability to work unsupervised and supervised in the time available, and at a reasonable rate should be developed. Homework is not meant to, and should not occupy the majority of a child's time away from the school.
2. Homework is set for students. Parents/guardians should be supportive and interested by providing time, space, materials and resources (eg computer).
3. If a parent/guardian objects to homework, this is his/her choice. In this case, a note should be written by the parents/guardians to the class teacher excluding the student from all homework. The student will be excluded from all homework activities except for activities which students are required to undertake to prepare for a lesson or assessment task. This preparation may include, but is not limited to: preparing a speech or news presentation, research or collecting items for an activity.
4. Teachers set homework according to our school policy. However it is the parents' /guardians' responsibility to see that the homework is completed and presented well.
5. Homework tasks should be assigned by classroom teachers with a specific, explicit learning purpose. On completion, teachers should acknowledge student effort and provide feedback related to student learning.
6. It is the responsibility of students to submit their homework to the best of their ability, completed and on time, to the appropriate teacher. Parents/guardians will be informed in writing if this does not regularly occur.
7. While homework is an important component of the teaching and learning process, schools recognise that it is important for students to have time for play, leisure and physical activities outside of school.



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## Procedures

- A homework guide for parents/guardians will be provided in the term overview at the start of each term, indicating individual teacher expectations e.g. how long to spend, standards of work, whether work is set weekly or daily etc.
- Parents/guardians may be asked to sign work when completed.
- Work will be marked regularly on completion, and feedback given to students.

## Implementation

- Homework may be given on allocated days, at the classroom teacher's discretion.
- Students on extended leave will **not** be given formal individualised homework. It is suggested that if appropriate, they read daily, keep a diary and learn about their holiday environment.
- The completion of assignments and work which **should** have been done in school time is **not** considered as homework. It is additional to homework and may be sent home.
- Homework will vary according to the grade level of the student. Please refer to the table below as a guide.

School Year	Daily Time (Approx)	In general, homework will consist of:
Kindergarten	10 min*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home reading to parents/caregivers</li> <li>• Online literacy programs</li> <li>• Literacy activities / sound work</li> <li>• Preparing news items/speeches on a given topic</li> </ul>
Year 1	10-15 min*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home reading to parents/caregivers</li> <li>• English / Literacy activities</li> <li>• Maths activities</li> <li>• Online literacy and numeracy programs</li> <li>• Preparing news items/speeches and/or a project on a given topic</li> </ul>
Year 2	15-30 min*	
Year 3 Year 4	30-40 min*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home reading (to parent/caregivers or silent reading)</li> <li>• English / Literacy activities</li> <li>• Maths activities</li> <li>• Learning/practising tables and mental computation</li> <li>• Online literacy and numeracy programs</li> <li>• Preparing speeches and/or a project on a given topic</li> </ul>
Year 5 Year 6	40-60 min*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home reading (to parent/caregivers or silent reading)</li> <li>• English / Literacy activities</li> <li>• Maths activities</li> <li>• Online literacy and numeracy programs</li> <li>• Learning/practising tables and mental computation</li> <li>• Preparing speeches</li> <li>• Researching and completing a project on a given topic</li> </ul>

*\*Please note: The daily time provides a suggested duration for homework activities. The time taken to complete homework may vary depending upon factors including the age, stage and the ability of students. The school acknowledges that students have other commitments, such as sport, cultural activities, tuition outside of school hours and home responsibilities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is completed.*



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- Informal activities at home or in play can assist students to develop a wide range of knowledge and skills. Language and number concepts can be introduced in many family activities, including:
  - shopping
  - preparation of food
  - family outings
  - listening to stories, learning songs and nursery rhymes
  - self-directed play
  - conversations about what is happening at school
  - board and card games

## **Mandarin & Modern Greek**

On occasions, a student may be given some work to finish at home if not finished in class, or they may need to revise work in preparation for a test. As well as this, students may be given a task or assignment associated with a particular unit of study.

## **EAL/D (English as an Additional Language or Dialect)**

New Arrival students will be given homework as soon as they are able to understand and complete activities with confidence. This homework will be reinforcement of activities studied in intensive English lessons. Emerging and Developing phase students will be given homework to assist their further practice and reinforcement of written English.

## **Performing Arts – Years 3-6**

Occasionally, research projects are given or scripts are to be rehearsed. Assignments will be accepted digitally or written.

The Kensington School Council has ratified this Homework Policy November 2017. It has been revised and updated after discussion between staff and parent representatives through the School Council.

If you have any questions, please see your child's teacher, in the first instance.