

### **We will consider students' other commitments when setting homework**

In determining homework, we believe it is important to acknowledge that some of our students may be engaging in many different and valuable activities outside of school. These may include a range of physical activities, sports, recreational and cultural pursuits. Some students may also have family responsibilities. When individual circumstances warrant on-going modifications or alterations to these expectations, it is expected that this will be documented, signed and dated by both teacher and carer.

### **We will use varied and challenging homework appropriate to students' learning needs**

Homework can be an opportunity for students to reflect on and practice skills from their classroom program through:

- revision and critical reflection to consolidate learning (practising for mastery)
- applying knowledge and skills in new contexts (a topic of interest, an authentic local issue)
- pursuing knowledge individually and imaginatively (investigating, researching, writing, designing, making)
- preparing for forthcoming classroom learning (collecting relevant materials, items, information)

### **To support Homework at school**

The rationale and purpose of this policy is focused on work done at home with a level of student independence. However it is understood that not all households have the time, space or resources to best facilitate a homework learning situation. At times in the year the school will provide a school learning environment which will provides time, a learning space and resources (books, computers, etc.) as well as staff supervision.

In implementing our school's homework policy, teachers are required to check homework regularly and provide timely and useful feedback. They are also required to discuss with parents and carers any developing problems concerning their child's homework and suggest strategies to assist with their homework.



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**MORAYFIELD EAST STATE SCHOOL**

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**



**REVIEWED JULY 2015  
ENDORSED BY MORAYFIELD EAST STATE  
SCHOOL PARENT'S AND CITIZEN'S  
ASSOCIATION  
SEPTEMBER 2015**

## Our Policy Development

In developing this policy we have taken direction from the Education Queensland P-12 Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework and Homework Policy Statement in partnership, and in consultation with our school community ratified through the Morayfield East State School Parent's and Citizen's Association.

We endeavour to ensure that consistent and effective implementation occurs throughout the school which includes a consistent approach to the amount of time students spend in completing homework (at particular year levels and in particular learning areas). Care is taken so that students are not disadvantaged by the lack of access to resources such as computers and the internet outside school.

## Our Homework Policy

Our school supports homework being regularly set in Prep to year 6. We support the set homework being consistent with the best practice guidelines that follow. However, in recognition of other demands on our students, we acknowledge that individual circumstances may warrant consultation between the class teacher and parent to modify or alter homework requirements.

## Why we set homework?

Homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning; reinforce behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning. When homework is set, it will take into account the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, recreation and cultural activities.

We believe, homework that enhances student learning:

- is purposeful and relevant to students' needs
- is appropriate to the stages of schooling (Early years and Upper primary)
- is appropriate to the capability of the student
- develops the student's independence as a learner
- is varied, challenging and clearly related to class work
- allows for student commitment to recreational, family and cultural activities

## Our set homework will be appropriate to particular Phases of Learning

### Home Reading: The importance of regular reading

Home Reading at Morayfield East State School is a valued element of homework. All students from Prep to Year 6 are expected to engage in daily reading to, with, and by parents/ caregivers or other family members. This is an organised program that is regularly monitored with opportunities to recognise individual achievements.

In the Early Years of schooling (Prep to Year 2) many activities at home or in play can assist children to develop literacy, numeracy and problem-solving skills.

In addition to Home Reading, homework tasks in Prep to Year 2 can include:

- high frequency words, spelling words and number facts activities
- linking concepts with familiar activities such as shopping, preparation of food, local environment and family outings
- conversations about what is happening at school
- preparation for oral presentations
- opportunities to write for meaningful purposes

In the Prep Year, students will receive regular Home Reading from the beginning of the year and then the inclusion of high frequency words from Term 2. Homework for Prep will ***not be more than 15 mins in total per day.***

In Years 1 and 2, set homework could be up to but generally ***not more than 20 mins in total per day.***

In the Upper Primary (Year 3 to Year 6) homework can be completed daily or weekly.

In addition to Home Reading, homework tasks can include:

- spelling and number facts activities
- activities coordinated across different subject areas
- extension of class work

Homework in Year 3 – Year 6 could be up to but generally ***not more than 45 mins in total per day.***

In the upper grades students are provided with more opportunities to be responsible for their own learning. They may be required to engage in independent learning that complements work undertaken in class and therefore have different timelines to other set homework tasks. Such tasks may take the form of projects, assignments or research in which students need to plan and manage their own time and learning (sometimes scheduled over a number of weeks).

The suggestions above serve as a guide in determining the amount of set homework that our students might be expected to undertake.