

St Felix Primary School Bankstown



Homework Policy

Rationale:

Homework is purposeful out of class learning that seeks to consolidate, enhance and extend what the child has learnt at school, It aims to develop productive habits of independent learning and planning.

School Expectations:

At St Felix homework needs to be:-

- Regular and consistent so that positive habits are developed
- Relevant to the needs of the children (therefore homework may need to be modified or expanded)
- Regularly monitored (i.e. corrected, signed and dated)
- Varied and stimulating, completing the same task each night can be boring. The children need to 'enjoy' the task.

Aims:

- To enable parents to be better understand the work being covered by their child
- To fulfil parents and children's expectations
- To further the home/school partnership in the education of the child
- To encourage responsibility in the child
- To extend the children's study life into the home, thereby parents to be more aware of, and involved, in the children's work
- To reinforce the work done during the day
- To establish a consistent homework policy throughout the school.

Responsibility for Homework

The class teacher/s accepts responsibility for:

- Setting the homework and communicating with students and parents
- Advising and assisting the individual students with aspects of homework that they don't understand
- Organising the correction of homework
- Ensuring that the homework is appropriate for the level of the students/class

The parent accepts responsibility for:

- Supervising the homework and for signing it on completion
- Sending a written explanation if homework cannot be done
- Informing the teacher of any difficulty
- Ensuring the quality and presentation of the homework
- Listening/and or reading with their child on a daily basis
- Ensuring a predictable routine and sound study habits.

The student accepts responsibility for:

- Bringing the work home
- Completing the work neatly and accurately as possible
- Returning the homework on time
- Discussing aspects of the homework they don't understand with their teacher and parents.

Conclusion:

'Homework should be a purposeful learning exercise which provides;

Revision and/or consolidation

Extension and/or enrichment

of the schools program. It should be seen by teachers, students and parents as consistent with life long learning.

Homework should also provide practical, useful opportunities for teachers to recognise differing needs, or encourage differing talents among children.

Homework should not be used as a device for securing classroom discipline or for compensating for inadequate school programs'

(Dept of Education)

'Accentuate the positive. Don't let homework be used as a punishment, as this encourages student to associate all home study with drudgery.

Listen to the personal needs of your students and be sympathetic. Understanding and flexibility about homework will leave students with a positive attitude to learning both at home and at school'.

Grade expectations:

Kindergarten

'Guided' reading' books (known texts)

A list of high frequency words to be read nightly (from mid Term 2)

Simple weekly worksheets to revise letters, sounds, basic concepts etc

(Max Time: 10 – 15 mins per night - including reading)

Year 1

Home Reading (Home Reading and Guided Reading books are read each night)

Spelling sheet (Look, Cover, Write, Check – each night)

Homework sheet (English, Maths, Theme based activity)

Core words and Sight words (practised each night)

(Max Time: 15 – 20 mins per night - including reading)

Year 2

Spelling sheet (Look, Cover, Write, Check – each night)

Homework sheet (English, Maths, Theme based activity)

Home Reading (Guided Reading book is read each night)

Sight words (practised each night)

(Max Time: 20 - 30 mins per night - including reading)

Year 3

Spelling words and activities

Reading: 10 – 15 mins
English Worksheet (Grammar, spelling, punctuation)
Maths activity (revising work covered in class)
Completing of work
Max Time: 30 mins each night – including reading)

Year 4

Reading
Spelling words and activities
Completion of tasks and assignments
Maths revision and activities
(Max Time: 30 - 40 mins each night – including reading)

Year 5

Spelling words and activities
Reading (usually silent reading)
Assignments and research work (over a couple of weeks)
Maths (Revision and consolidation, tables)
Completion of tasks
(Max Time: 40 – 45 mins each night – including reading)

Year 6

Spelling tasks
Maths consolidation; Tables
Reading (Silent & comprehension)
Completion of un-finished work from class
Assignments and Research tasks
(Max Time: 45 - 50 mins each night – including reading).

NB:

- 1. If, at the end of your child's maximum time set for homework and they have been organised, focused and working steadily, it is OK to stop the homework for the night.*
- 2. Homework should never become a source of frustration, anger or arguments with your child. Encourage them to 'have a go' at the activity, then move to the next/easier activity and inform the teacher of the difficulty the next day.*