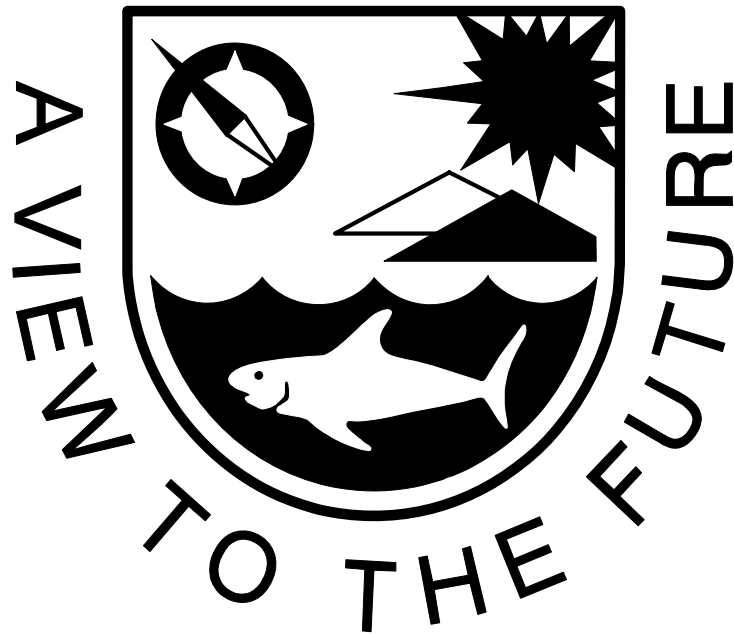


Dampier Primary School



Homework Policy

School Purpose Statement:

The purpose of Dampier Primary School is to develop the whole child, empowering lifelong learners who strive to realize their personal best while working cooperatively to demonstrate civic and environmental responsibility.

RATIONALE

Homework provides children with the opportunity to develop skills that complement those learnt in the classroom. It enables parents to involve themselves directly in the learning program. Homework should enhance the child's growing independence as a learner and develop self-discipline and organisational skills.

PROCEDURES

- Teachers will inform parents of classroom homework expectations, and notify parents if children consistently fail to submit homework.
- Teachers will ensure that completed homework is acknowledged.
- Homework will be given on a regular basis, allowing for student and parents to plan homework time around other commitments.
- Homework needs to be flexible to meet the needs of all students
- Homework should not be given as punishment.
- Children will not be punished for not completing homework.
- Homework can and should involve home reading.
- Although students are encouraged to complete homework, parents have the choice not to involve their children in the homework program by notifying the classroom teacher.

GUIDELINES

The following Guidelines provide ideas for appropriate homework activities and suggested time allocations.

Years 1 and 2

Homework centres upon *READING* set by the teacher. This should take about 10 – 15 minutes.

Suggestions

- At the beginning of Year 1 your child may need to have you read books to them.
- Your child reads out loud when able.
- Parent **DISCUSSES** the story and **ASKS QUESTIONS** about what has been read.
- Parent signs the Reading Card.
- Child practises sounds.
- Children in Year 2 may be expected to practise **SPELLING** at home as well.
- Special needs students have specific homework programs developed in consultation with parents.

Years 3, 4 and 5

READING may be set by the teacher. This homework will take about 15 – 20 minutes. Your child may select a book to take home to read from available reading material, or may be asked to select from personal/library books.

Suggestions

- Child reads silently at first.
- Child reads parts or all text aloud.
- Parent DISCUSSES the story and ASKS QUESTIONS about what has been read.
- Basic + - x / facts. Tables practise as much as possible.
- Teachers may set specific Maths activities when the need arises.
- Neat writing and printed presentation is expected with all written homework.
- SPELLING – Children be required to revise spelling.
- Special needs students have specific homework programs developed in consultation with parents.

Year 6 and 7

All children do approximately 30 minutes each school evening.

Suggestions

- 10 minutes basic + - x / facts practise
- 20 minutes SILENT reading from reading texts or personal/library books.
- Some reading aloud to parents could also be done.
- Children may go over SPELLING words for 10 minutes as well.
- Special needs students have specific homework programs developed in consultation with parents.

All Years

Teachers may require children to:

- Complete unfinished class work at home.
- Undertake special research projects.
- Locate current events items
- Practise sets of examples where the need clearly exists.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

The following suggestions are included to assist parents in providing an environment conducive to completing homework:

- Provide your child with a quiet time and place to do homework. Switch off the TV.
- Siblings need to respect that those engaged in homework should not be disturbed.
- Show a genuine interest in your child's homework and become involved, but refrain from doing it for them.
- Establish a homework routine and be aware of homework procedures e.g. reading folders, homework diaries, spelling journals, etc.
- Ensure that your child has the tools necessary to complete the homework e.g. pens, pencils, calculator, ruler, eraser, glue, scissors, paper, etc.
- Have an atlas and dictionary in the home.
- Be willing to make the occasional trip to the school and/or public library with your child.
- Keep in touch with your child's teacher, especially if difficulties are experienced.

CONCLUSION

An effective homework plan should assist children to develop independent home study habits in order to achieve the highest possible outcomes.