WALLANGARRA STATE SCHOOL
HOMEWORK POLICY

Purpose

For the child, homework is set

- to enrich or consolidate the child's educational program
- to establish a regular routine for revision, practice and reinforcement of knowledge and skills taught at school
- to build positive attitudes and a purposeful approach to set tasks and their completion
- to give the child the opportunity to discuss and share school work with parents, and to benefit from their insights and encouragement. For parents, homework gives opportunity
- to experience the child's attitudes and abilities as they relate to set work
- to be actively aware of the child's schooling - topics covered, concepts developed etc
- to establish an environment conducive to effective work
- to communicate with the teacher via book or letter, perceptions about the child's effective learning, or level of the work set and the clarity of instructions
- to listen and share in the child's learning and social experiences in ways that should enhance the good relationships within the home

A quiet time, free from distractions, to provide the space and equipment necessary to complete the task

For the teacher, homework

- is a way of reinforcing concepts, skills, knowledge and processes
- is a form of good training for time management
- is a form of assessment. It demonstrates how well children can apply classroom learning in another setting
- is a means of communicating with parents, allowing them to share in the learning experience taking place at school
- may include reading, word study (spelling/grammar), math exercises and games, research, experiment and observation, projects
Guidelines for action

- homework should ensure quality of effort as a main focus
- teachers should detail the format and time requirements at the beginning of the year
- homework is the child's responsibility, but parental support is to be encouraged
- if the child does not understand the work set, or is unable to complete it, parents should not do the work for them
- children in conjunction with their families, should determine the most appropriate time of day/week to complete set homework or projects
- in some cases, children may be required to complete unfinished class work at home
- homework should be a rewarding activity, to be achievable within the time-frame agreed upon, so that the child can get prompt feedback on the work completed
- if the child has difficulty with the set homework the parent should communicate with the child’s teacher

Plan of program implementation

**Years Prep to 4**

- Enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials
- Mainly consist of daily reading to, with and by parent or siblings

This will generally **not exceed 30 minutes a day** and not be set on weekend or during holiday periods.

**Years 5 & 6**

- include daily independent reading
- may include extension of class work, projects and assignments

This will generally **not exceed 30-45 minutes a day**.