



Wilson State School Homework Policy

Statement of intent

The Wilson State School Homework Policy was developed in consultation with the school community.

Homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, pattern behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning. The setting of homework takes into account the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, recreation, cultural pursuits and employment where appropriate.

We believe homework that enhances student learning:

- is purposeful and relevant to students needs
- is appropriate to the phase of learning (early, middle and senior)
- is appropriate to the capability of the student
- develops the student's independence as a learner
- allows for student commitment to recreational, employment, family and cultural activities.

Responsibilities of the Teacher

Teachers can help students establish a routine of regular, independent study by:

- ensuring their school's homework policy is implemented
- setting homework on a weekly basis
- checking homework regularly and providing timely and useful feedback
- giving consideration to other academic and personal development activities (school based or other) that students could be engaged in when setting homework
- discussing with parents and caregivers any developing problems concerning their child's homework and suggesting strategies to assist with their homework.

Teachers at Wilson State School are responsible for setting, marking and recording homework. The completion and standard of student homework will form part of the conversation during parent-teacher interviews and be included in semester reporting.

It is not expected that teachers will make contact with parents or caregivers for the purpose of following up on homework that is not submitted. Where a parent or caregiver contacts a teacher to gain clarification or assistance with homework, it is expected that teachers will offer assistance at a mutually convenient time.

Responsibilities of the Student

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing with their parents or caregivers homework expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment.

Responsibilities of Parents and Caregivers

Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in tasks at home including shopping, playing games and physical activity
- helping them to complete tasks by discussing key questions or directing them to resources
- encouraging them to organise their time and take responsibility for their learning
- helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games, playing sport and engaging in other recreational activities
- contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to the homework.

Homework Appropriate to Phases of Learning

In the Prep Year, generally students will not be set homework.

Homework tasks for students in Years 1 to 3 may include:

- daily reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or other family members
- consolidation of sight words, number facts and basic algorithms
- activities using spelling list words in context
- preparation for oral presentations
- opportunities to write for meaningful purposes.

*Students in Year 3 may also be set NAPLAN practise tasks.

It is expected that students in Years 1-3 would spend the equivalent of 10-15 minutes, 4 nights per week, completing homework activities.

Homework tasks for students in Years 4 – 7 may include:

- daily reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or other family members
- consolidation of sight words, number facts and basic algorithms
- activities using spelling list words in context
- preparation for oral presentations
- opportunities to write for meaningful purposes

and / or

- include daily independent reading
- be coordinated across different subject areas
- include extension of class work, projects and research.

*Students in Years 5 and 7 may also be set NAPLAN practise tasks.

It is expected that students in Years 4 and 5 would spend the equivalent of 15-25 minutes, 4 nights per week, completing homework activities.

It is expected that students in Years 6 and 7 would spend the equivalent of 15-30 minutes, 4 nights per week, completing homework activities.

Policy References

- Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 Part 4 Section 23
<http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/E/EducGenPrA06.pdf>
- CRP-PR-010 Homework in State Schools
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/eppr/curriculum/index.html>