



## Homework Policy

### Purpose:

Homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, pattern behaviour for life-long learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning. The setting for homework takes into account that students need to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, recreation and cultural pursuits. Parents should feel able to negotiate their child's homework with the teacher, if family circumstances or outside school commitments make it difficult for the child to fulfil the year level requirements.

To help find the balance between family life and helping students reach their full potential, the Qld Government has released the Homework in State Schools Policy. This policy sets out guidelines for homework, including the amount of time students should spend on homework each week.

Homework at Burleigh Heads is aimed at enhancing student learning and promoting links between home and school.

It should:-

- ✓ Be purposeful and relevant to student needs
- ✓ Be appropriate to the phase of learning
- ✓ Be appropriate to the capability of the student
- ✓ Develop the student's independence as a learner
- ✓ Clearly relate to class work

Please note: Students who have strings and/or instrumental music lessons at school may be required to undertake further homework in addition to their class homework allocation (i.e. Instrument practice)

### Responsibilities:

Teacher Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
Teachers help students to establish a routine of regular independent study by:	Students are able to take responsibility for their own learning by:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting homework on a regular basis (excluding weekends)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being aware of the school's homework policy</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearly communicating the purpose, benefits and expectations of homework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussing with their parents or caregivers expectations for completing homework</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Checking homework regularly and providing timely and useful feedback</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accepting responsibility for completing homework within a set time frame and to the established standard</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiating with parents and caregivers any issues surrounding homework and suggesting strategies to assist with homework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeking assistance when experiencing difficulty</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing Year Level guidelines and expectations for all drafts in a Grade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following up on comments made by teachers</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scaffolding activities so students and parents are aware of deadlines and requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accepting responsibility if homework is not done</li> </ul>
Parent and Caregiver Responsibilities	
Parents and caregivers need to support their children by:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertaking shared reading and involving them in tasks at home including shopping, playing games and physical activity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helping them to complete tasks by asking key questions and directing them to resources eg: internet, newspapers and the local library</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging them to organise their time and take responsibility for their learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contacting their student's teacher to discuss any concerns that they have about homework and negotiate a mutually agreeable outcome</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging them to read and take an interest in and discuss current local, national and international events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games, playing sport and engaging in other recreational activities</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helping them to organise a place for study that is comfortable and free of distraction</li> </ul>	

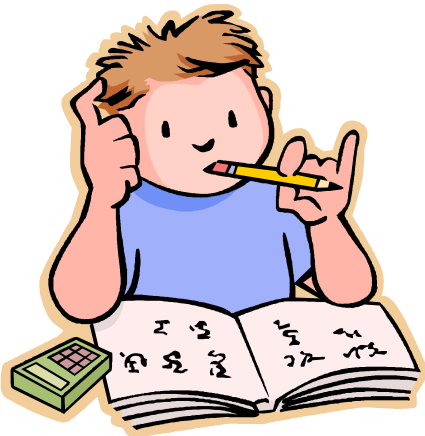
### Responsibilities

Prep – Year 3 Homework Tasks	Years 4-7 Homework Tasks
In the Prep year, homework will mainly consist of reading and practising sight words. (About 10 minutes per night for 4 nights)	Homework in Years 4 and 5 may be up to, but no more than 2-3 hours per week.
In Years 1, 2 and 3, homework may be up to, but no more than, one hour per week. (4 nights x 15 minutes)	Homework in Years 6 and 7 may be up to, but no more than 3-4 hours per week.
Prep – Year 3 homework tasks may include:	Years 4-7 homework tasks may include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily sharing of reading with parents/caregivers or other family members</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily independent reading</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking concepts with familiar activities such as shopping, cooking, local environment and family outings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking concepts with daily activities such as shopping, cooking, local environment and current affairs</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversations about what is happening at school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversations about what is happening at school</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of oral presentations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extension of class work, projects and research</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunities to write for meaningful purposes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunities to write for meaningful purposes</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-Learning activities that reinforce classroom learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-Learning activities that reinforce classroom learning</li> </ul>

## Homework Tips for Students

- ✓ Copy your homework accurately from the board or paste your homework sheet into your homework book
- ✓ Do your homework in the same place at the same time each night. (This will help establish good homework habits.)
- ✓ Don't do your homework as soon as you get home. Take a break and play for a while first.
- ✓ Do your homework in a quiet area away from screens i.e. television, video, computer, tablets, phones etc. , unless you are using a computer as part of your homework completion.
- ✓ Have a dictionary, pens and other study tools set up purely for homework use only.
- ✓ Concentrate and work hard.

- ✓ If homework gets too hard ask for help.



When you have finished:

- ✓ Show a parent or caregiver.
- ✓ Put everything you need for the next day straight into your school bag.
- ✓ If you are unable to complete your homework because you did not understand the work or any other reasonable excuse, ask your parent/caregiver to write a note to your class teacher.

Appendix 2.

Make a homework timetable. Put down all the things you do after school – eg sport, music lessons, scouts etc - and work out when your homework time will be each night. Stick to it, and you will find that homework gets easier to manage and you still have time to hang out with your friends.

<b>My Personal Organiser</b>				
<b>Time</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
4.00				
4.30				
5.00				
5.30				
6.00				
6.30				
7.00				
7.30				
8.00				
Work Done				
School Bag Packed				

You could use it like this:

- ✓ Put in all your sports/music/after school activities. You can't change the times on these.
- ✓ Put in family events.
- ✓ Put in time for your family meal.
- ✓ Put in your homework.
- ✓ Put in your favourite TV program. etc