

PORT MACQUARIE STEINER SCHOOL

4.6 HOMEWORK POLICY

Drafted date: 4 th March 2018	By: Melodie Ayriss	Approved by Board date: 27 th March 2018
Reviewed date: 20 th March 2018	By: Ruth Gallagher	Next review due date: March 2019
Associated policies:	1.1 PMQSS Student Enrolment Policy 2.3 PMQSS Student Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy	
Associated Laws:		

INTENTION

To clearly outline the age-appropriate approach the School has to homework and its expectation of students and their parents or guardians in relation to homework.

INTRODUCTION

Homework helps to bridge the gap between learning at school and learning at home, and helps establish a foundation for habits of study and self-discipline when students approach the upper Primary years. It helps to reaffirm the role of parents and guardians as partners in education and also provides them with insight into what is being taught in the classroom.

POLICY

1. Homework Guidelines

The School recognises that while homework is an important component of the teaching and learning process, it must be age-appropriate. In the Kindergarten and Class 1 groups, it is important for students to have time for play, leisure, social and physical activities outside of school.

Generally teachers will not set formal homework in Kindergarten, Class 1 or 2. However, all activities at home or in play can assist children to develop a wide range of knowledge and skills including literacy, numeracy and problem solving. It should also be remembered that self-directed free play in unstructured time is important. Language and number concepts can be introduced and consolidated in many family activities including:

- shopping
- preparation of food
- listening to stories, learning songs and nursery rhymes
- conversations about what is happening at School
- library borrowing
- family outings
- collecting items

2. Encouragement from Home

Homework helps to reaffirm the role of parents and guardians as partners in their child's education. This creates a highly supportive learning environment for students to flourish in. The School encourages parents and guardians to participate by:

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- taking an active interest in homework
- ensuring there are opportunities for students to be involved in the family activities listed above
- encouraging and supporting students to participate in these tasks
- communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework and their child's approach to the tasks

3. Support

The Class Teacher, as part of their teaching and pastoral care roles, can provide support to parents or guardians in how to involve their children in family activities and also to students who may have difficulty managing or participating in such activities.

PROCEDURE(S)

1. The Class Teacher will outline the purpose and benefits of homework for the relevant age group, at the beginning of each school year or at the point of enrolment by providing parents and guardians with information from within this Policy and the Kindergarten Parent Handbook.

RESOURCES

Kindergarten Parent Handbook

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually.