



REDLYNCH STATE COLLEGE

PRIMARY CAMPUS HOMEWORK POLICY

Intent It is a requirement for all Queensland State Schools to develop a school homework policy in consultation with the school community — as specified in Policy Statement: *Homework*.

Scope At Redlynch State College we believe that 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 and community and cultural pursuits.

PROVISIONS

At Redlynch State College we believe that homework is effective in supporting learning when it has a clear purpose.

Homework that enhances learning:

- is clearly related to class work
- is purposeful and relevant to students needs
- is appropriate to the phase of learning
- is varied and differentiated to individual learning needs
- develops students' independence as a learner

The purpose of homework is to engage students in independent learning which complements work undertaken in class through:

- revision and reflection to consolidate learning (practise for mastery)
- applying knowledge and skills in new contexts (a topic of interest, an authentic local issue)
- pursuing knowledge individually and imaginatively (investigating, researching, writing, designing, making)
- preparing for forthcoming classroom learning (collecting relevant materials and information)

HOMEWORK GUIDELINES – EDUCATION QUEENSLAND

The Queensland Government has set out guidelines for homework, including the amount of time students should spend on homework each week. Briefly the policy recommends the following maximum homework hours over a week:

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| Prep | - generally students will not be set homework other than daily reading. |
| Years 1, 2 and 3 | - up to but generally not more than 15-20 minutes per night. |
| Years 4 to 5 | - up to but generally not more than 2-3 hours per week. |
| Year 6 | - up to but generally not more than 3-4 hours per week. |

RESPONSIBILITIES

Teachers

Teachers can help students establish a routine of regular, independent home-learning by:

- ensuring the college Homework Policy is implemented consistently across all year levels
- setting home-learning tasks on a regular basis but within a flexible time-frame
- communicating clearly the purpose, expectations and benefits of all home-learning tasks
- checking homework regularly and providing positive recognition of the efforts of students
- providing timely and appropriate feedback about home-learning tasks
- selecting tasks that are varied, challenging and directly related to class work
- selecting tasks that are purposeful and appropriate to students' learning needs
- explicitly teaching strategies to develop organisational and time-management skills and providing opportunities for practice through home-learning activities
- discussing with parents and caregivers any issues concerning their child's home learning tasks and suggesting strategies to assist with home learning requirements
- providing assistance when difficulties arise
- supporting students to access technology during school if required for homework tasks.

Students

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's expectations and guidelines for home learning
- discussing with their parents or caregivers expectations around home learning tasks
- accepting responsibility for the completion of tasks within set time frames
- following up on feedback provided by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage the various activities they engage in
- Years 4-6 – use journal/diary to manage homework tasks.

Parents & Caregivers

Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

- giving them assistance where required to complete tasks
- encouraging them to organise their time
- encouraging them to take responsibility for their learning
- helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing home learning tasks, watching television, playing computer games, playing sport and engaging in other recreational activities
- communicating with their child's teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of home learning tasks or their child's approach to the learning.

Prep to Year 6

In the Primary School, homework reflects our belief that students need to have the opportunity to consolidate their classroom learning as well as engage in a balanced lifestyle. All teachers set up homework that has direct relevance to the classroom learning.

The homework activities will vary between year levels, however daily reading is essential to all year levels Prep to Year 6.

Activities may include but are not limited to:

- daily reading
- spelling activities/vocab
- number facts/computation
- preparation for oral presentations
- assignment/project research
- Mathletics/Mathseeds
- ReadingEggs/Eggspress
- Typing Tournament.

Home Reading Record: The Importance of Regular Reading

All students from Prep to Year 6 are expected to engage in daily reading to, with or by parents and caregivers. Words are essential in building the thought connections in the brain. The more interactive language a child experiences through books and conversation with others (not passively from television), the more advantaged socially and educationally that child will be for the rest of his or her life. Development of language skills is linked positively to thinking skills and academic performance.

Opportunities to read at home:

- *Listen* to a book read aloud by an adult or older sibling.
- Read *along with* a parent or sibling.
- Read *aloud to* parent or older sibling
- Read *silently* then talk to an adult about the book
- Read *silently* with no adult interaction (suitable for Years 5 and 6)

Year 6

In Year 6 students are given more responsibility for their own learning in preparation for Secondary. They may be required to engage in independent learning to complement work undertaken in class.



This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by the Executive Principal.

Person Responsible for Review: Head of Campus Primary

ADOPTED: 26/08/2021

DUE FOR REVISION: 26/08/2023

REVOKED/SUPERSEDED: