



# HOMWORK GUIDELINES

**Date of Development:** 8 February 2021

**Contact Officer:** Anastasia Galanos, Principal

**Associated Department of Education Policies, Procedures and Guidelines:**

Homework Policy

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/homework-policy?refid=285831>

**Audience and applicability:** Teachers and Parents

**Monitoring and Review:** The guidelines will be reviewed on 27 February 2022

**Location:** The most current version of the Communication Procedures and Guidelines are kept on the school's T Drive, CPPS Procedures, guidelines, reports and plans/Homework Guidelines.

*In the following document the term parents includes parents, guardians and carers*

## School Guidelines Statement

The Croydon Park Public School Homework Guidelines have been written in alignment with the Department of Education Homework Policy and Guidelines to assist staff, students and parents at Croydon Park Public School to understand the school's position in relation to homework and to articulate shared responsibilities.

## Rationale

Research regarding the value of homework, particularly for primary students is inconclusive and community expectations about homework are variable.

The school believes that student learning may be enhanced when homework is:

- Appropriate for students' age and ability;
- Purposeful and designed to meet specific learning goals;
- Varied, challenging and achievable;
- Built on knowledge, skills and understanding developed in class time.

It is also very important that out of school commitments such as sport, cultural activities, tuition, home responsibilities and issues around access to technology beyond school are carefully considered.

## Implementation

For the purposes of this document, homework is defined as any school task assigned by the school intended for students to carry out during non-school hours designed to meet specific learning goals.

- Homework is NOT mandatory.
- Teachers are required to provide feedback in a timely manner to all children who complete homework.
- Reading for pleasure every day should be encouraged and celebrated.
- Teachers will design and assign homework which is appropriate for students' age and ability, purposeful, varied, challenging and achievable and built on knowledge, skills and understanding developed in class time;
- Teachers will provide timely quality feedback to students on set homework;
- Teachers will discuss with students and parent/caregivers any developing issues regarding a student's homework;
- Parents/caregivers will be advised of stage specific/class specific homework expectations at the beginning of the year;
- Parents/caregivers will support their children with completion of homework.
- Stage specific homework expectations will be communicated to students and parents/caregivers at the beginning of each year;
- The Homework Guidelines will be posted on the school website and this will be communicated to parents on an annual basis.

### The Department of Education's recommendations.

#### *The early years (K-2)*

- ◆ Parents can greatly assist their young child's learning by talking with them about school, listening to their child read and reading to their child. This is particularly true in Kindergarten where homework is less formal.
- ◆ In Years One and Two children will receive regular homework including home reading, language activities (including spelling) and mathematics.
- ◆ While each child works at a different pace, as a guide, children should spend up to **60 minutes per week** on homework in addition to their reading

#### *Primary School (Years 3 - 6)*

- ◆ As students progress through primary years, they increasingly work independently on homework.
- ◆ Many homework activities will be in the areas of **English** (including reading, spelling and handwriting) and **mathematics**, but may include homework in other Key Learning Areas and, for some assignments, require greater organisation of time.
- ◆ While each child works at a different pace, as a guide, students should complete approximately **two** hours of homework per week in Yr. 3 & 4.
- ◆ While each child works at a different pace as a guide, students should be actively involved in approximately **three** hours of homework per week in Yr. 5 & 6.

- ◆ While homework is not specifically set for completion on weekends, students who have not finished projects and assignments may need to spend time on weekends doing so.

## **Expectations at Croydon Park Public School**

### **Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)**

Kindergarten students are provided with homework in Term 2. Each fortnight a one page homework sheet comprising of sounds and sight words will be provided to support students in consolidating sounds and sight words introduced during Literacy lessons.

As part of our Speaking and Listening program, students are encouraged to plan a short speech on a designated topic to deliver in front of their class peers. This will be done on their allocated News day.

Counting skills are also consolidated at home.

### **HOME READING**

Daily home reading (10 mins) is an essential component of the homework. Students are also encouraged to talk about the books with their parents, discussing what happened in the story, who was the main character, when and where does the story takes place.

### **Stage One (Years 1-2)**

Students are provided with a fortnightly matrix comprising of literacy, numeracy and other key learning tasks which align with classroom programs.

### **HOME READING**

As a guide, students in Year 1 should spend 10-15 minutes a day on homework and students in Year 2 should spend 15 minutes per day.

In addition, all students are encouraged to read for 10-15 minutes a night. It is helpful for parents to complete their child's reading log.

### **Stages 2 and 3 (Year 3-6)**

Students are provided with a fortnightly matrix comprising of English (including reading, spelling and writing), Mathematics and other Key Learning tasks which align with classroom programs. Tasks set are designed to consolidate prior learning and students should be able to complete their tasks independently. Parents are encouraged to contact the classroom teacher if their child is experiencing difficulties completing any tasks.

Whilst a hard copy can be provided on request, most homework activities require access to a computer or tablet in order to complete online activities and Google Classroom. Students are provided with all their login information and are explicitly taught how to complete their online homework, prior to homework being assigned.

Feedback is provided to students in a timely manner on Google Classroom. Homework is set on a Monday and due to be submitted online on the Friday of the following fortnight.

## **HOME READING**

Students are expected to read for at least 20 minutes each night and complete to their log which parents are required to sign.