



# Como Primary School Homework Policy

## Background

Homework can support higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. It also extends the time available for the exploration of new ideas and new situations. Homework can also extend the time available to the teacher for the monitoring of student progress.

There is a community expectation that secondary schools, in particular, will set and mark homework. Many community members see homework as tangible evidence that the school cares about the educational progress of students. Homework can also be a means of furthering school-home relationships and can assist in keeping parents informed about the student's learning program and progress.

## Guidelines

Homework must:

- only be used to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes;
- form part of a developmental learning program that is responsive to individual needs, clearly relevant, supported by classroom practice and, where appropriate, developed in collaboration with students; and
- be disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline.

## Homework should:

- support the development of the student's independence as a learner;
- further the partnership between school and home;
- avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student;
- be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational, cultural and employment pursuits relevant to the student's age, development and educational aspirations;
- be balanced across learning areas so as to avoid stress and overload;
- be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through the upper primary years and sustained through the secondary years; and
- be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning area requirements.

Homework is recorded in student diaries and is an excellent tool to enable students to become well organised with their homework.

To further improve personal organisation It is suggested that Year 3-6 students make a weekly homework timetable and record when they will do their homework Monday-Friday.

Below is an outline of some of the **types of homework provided and maximum time per day** for students to do homework at Como Primary School:

Years 1 – 2 (10-12 mins max)

- Home reading of teacher provided books
- Home reading of individual choice books
- Learning spelling words
- Mental maths activities aimed at reinforcing number combinations and processes

Years 3 – 6 (15-20 mins for Years 3&4 and 30 minutes Year 5&6 max)

- Reading of library books
- Finishing written class work not completed during the day
- Research to support class work or study assignments
- Refining draft work commenced in class
- Reviewing work covered in class
- 

NB Music practice for those involved in the school's instrumental program is in addition to class homework.

### **Technology and Homework @ Como**

Students have access through their personal login details to these school supported online programs:

- Reading Eggs that supports literacy skills
- Mathletics that supports numeracy
- Languagenut that supports our French program
- Soundwaves

At all times, parents should closely monitor their child's use of the internet. No homework involving iPad apps nor involving social media/collaborative online projects will ever be given to our students. Parents are reminded that in order to keep up to date with cyber safety they should visit the government site: <https://esafety.gov.au/>

### **Suggestions for Parents**

- Children need the opportunity to play and relax after school
- Homework is best done at a quiet time set aside for homework completion