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# Homework Policy

## RATIONALE:

Staff at Settlers believe that homework forms an essential part of effective student learning. It should be a positive experience for students and parents and is aimed at enhancing higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school.

Through homework, students also have the opportunity to develop:

- Self-discipline
- Responsibility for their own learning
- Pride in their effort
- Satisfaction of learning
- Independent study skills
- Organisation and time management skills
- Striving for excellence

## GUIDELINES:

Settlers Farm Campus accepts that homework should:

- Be a direct means of supporting the home-school partnership by providing parents with opportunities to observe student progress and encourage positive attitudes to education.
- Be a purposeful learning experience and that it may contribute in a number of ways to the development and extension of the child's learning and the school program.
- Be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through junior primary to primary and the middle years.
- Avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily accessible to the student.
- Be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational and cultural aspirations.
- Be set from Monday to Thursday. *As a general rule homework will not be set on weekends and holidays, however students are encouraged to manage their own time to complete open-ended tasks, projects, assignments etc, and may choose to work at these times..*

POSSIBLE HOMEWORK FORMATS may include:

- A weekly contract which includes a variety of the above activities
- Homework may be set each night.



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

## **COMMUNICATION:**

Each teacher will have particular systems in place that will ensure clear communication is maintained between school and home e.g. diaries, communication book, OneNote, Class Dojo or email.

An outline of some of the types of Homework provided:

**Junior Primary (Reception – Yr. 2)** (Homework will generally not exceed 20 minutes per day)

Homework could include:

- Reading one or more books on a daily basis with parents/caregivers or other siblings
- Gathering information for oral talks
- Practise of the alphabet and phonics
- Practise of sight words
- Handwriting practise
- Number facts

**Primary (Years 3-5)** (up to 30 minutes per day)

Homework could include:

- Reading on a regular basis
- Practise in Maths, spelling, writing / wellbeing life skills
- Completing or continuing unfinished class work.

**Middle Years (Years 6-7)** (up to 45 minutes per day)

Home practice could include:

- Reading on an independent daily basis
- Continuation of class work. i.e. Maths, spelling, comprehension
- Projects, assignments and research.
- Wellbeing / Life Skills / Community Service

### **Parents can help by:**

- Providing a dedicated place and time for home practise and study where possible.
- Encouraging and support their child to fulfil home practise requirements.
- Contacting class teachers if there are difficulties.
- Not doing the home practise for their child.
- Allowing their child to accept responsibility for their own homework.
- Discussing expectations with their child.
- Providing assistance with the development of time management and organisation skills.
- Providing positive, supportive encouragement.
- Contacting the classroom teacher if homework is impacting on wellbeing.

### **Students can help by:**

- Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set timeframes.
- Advising parents/caregivers of home practise expectations.
- Seeking assistance from teachers or parents when difficulties arise.
- Trying to do their best work.
- Organising and using time well to manage home obligations, participating in dance, music and sports commitments and family activities.
- Following up on comments made by teachers.

## **CONSEQUENCES**

If homework is not completed for any reason at the set time, it is very important to contact the classroom teacher to explain the reasons. Classroom teachers may provide opportunities for students to catch up with homework if it has not been able to be completed.

4

**Ratified by Governing Council 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019**