



Arncliffe Public School Home Learning Policy 2013

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Arncliffe Public School

Home Learning Policy

PURPOSE

This document represents the School Community's intended approach regarding Home Learning (formerly known as Homework), for students of Arncliffe Public School. It is the policy of this school that some learning tasks or experiences will be set for the students to complete at home. Tasks will be relevant, meaningful and based on current class work.

BACKGROUND

All NSW Public Schools are required to develop a Homework Policy. The DEC provides guidance to schools and parents regarding Homework which is considered in compiling this Policy. Detailed information relating to the DEC requirements and further information for parents relating to Homework can be found at:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/homework/index.php>

DEFINITION

Home Learning is any task assigned by school teachers intended for students to complete during non-school hours, which is designed to compliment student's classroom learning. Arncliffe Public School has adopted the term "Home Learning" to replace the term "Homework"

AIM

The school intends Home Learning to be a partnership between students, parents and teachers. It is the policy of the school that some learning experiences and tasks will be set on a weekly basis for students to complete at Home. Home Learning is NOT compulsory; however the school community believe Home Learning should be encouraged. While it is understood that studies into the benefits of Homework/Home Learning are inconclusive the school believes Home Learning:

- provides an opportunity for greater parental appreciation of and involvement in their child's schooling
- is likely to reinforce work done in the classroom
- is likely to assist students to prepare for more senior years

Tasks set for Home Learning aim to be:

- interesting and enjoyable for students so they want to participate
- supports school learning

- structured in a manner to allow parents and/or students to determine what can be completed depending upon varying weekly time demands
- not be burdensome to the family lifestyle and other extracurricular activities
- encourage communication between parents and teachers regarding student's participation in Home Learning

Parents with specific concerns regarding Home Learning should communicate any issues with their child's teacher.

EXAMPLE OF WHAT HOME LEARNING COULD LOOK LIKE

Early Stage 1 – Kindergarten

Students will be given Home Reading books and phonic sound books. Children will be asked to give weekly news and during Term 3 speech preparation tasks.

“Mathletics” and “Reading Eggs” activities can also be completed

Stage 1 – Year 1 and 2

Students in Stage 1 will be given Home Reading books and a weekly Home Learning sheet with a variety of tasks to complete. Children will be asked to give weekly news and during Term 3 speech preparation tasks.

“Mathletics” and “Reading Eggs” activities can also be completed

Stage 2 and 3

Students in Stage 2 and 3 will have “Accelerated Reader” books to read with a quiz completed in class. The number of books will vary each week.

There is a weekly Home Learning sheet with a variety of tasks to complete and during Term 2 and 3 speech preparation tasks.

Sometimes there may be a research project, or design and make task to complete.

“Mathletics” and “Spellodrome” activities can also be completed.

RESPONSIBILITY OF TEACHERS INCLUDES:

- providing Home Learning tasks that are consistent across the grade; are appropriate to the student's capabilities and based on current class work;
- informing parents of intended home learning programs at the parent information evenings early in Term 1 of each year;
- the provision of clear and adequate expectations;
- correcting and/or evaluating the completed work in an encouraging environment; and,

- providing students with the opportunity to share their work/celebrate their achievements.

RESPONSIBILITY OF CHILDREN (WHERE PARENTS OPT FOR THEIR CHILD TO DO HOME LEARNING) INCLUDES:

- taking the learning tasks home, completing them to the best of their ability and returning them to school in the agreed time; and,
- seeking assistance from the teacher where necessary.

RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS / GUARDIANS INCLUDES:

- completing and returning a notification of an intention to opt in, or opt out of Home Learning.

If opting in....

- supervising and assisting children when needed;
- making arrangements to provide adequate space and time for completion of activities;
- encouraging children to manage time effectively, complete tasks on time and manage the balance between recreational and Home Learning activities; and,
- communicating with the classroom teacher when concerns arise.

MONITORING, EVALUATION and REVIEW

Teachers will monitor the completion of tasks and indications of parental involvement. Where there is cause for concern, a parent, student and teacher conference will be organised. Home Learning will not be assessed or reported for the formal school Report. Indicators of success will be:

- greater student positivity about Home Learning
 - positive parental responses; and,
 - positive impact on student attitudes towards learning.
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INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE IN HOME LEARNING

The school considers reading at home to and with adults, or independently, an essential part of each child's learning development. All children are expected to participate in reading at home.

Having considered the school's Home Learning Policy, I wish to make the following choice about the participation of my child/ren (please tick one box):

- I choose to opt out of all Home Learning activities (other than reading) on behalf of my child.
- I choose to have my child do some Home Learning activities depending on their learning needs, level of interest and the availability of time.
- I choose to have my child complete Home Learning as provided by the class teacher. I wish this to be monitored by the teacher and I wish to be informed if Home Learning is not completed consistently.

Name of Child: _____ Class: _____

Name of Parent: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____