

At **Birkdale South State School**, it is a shared belief that homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, establish behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning. The setting of homework tasks considers the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes time for family, recreation, community and cultural pursuits. Homework will not exceed more than one hour per week. We have a shared understanding of the importance for all students to be engaged in daily reading.

Homework that supports and enhances learning:

- is clearly related to class work; consolidating and/or revising classroom learning;
- is purposeful and relevant to student needs;
- is appropriate to the phase of learning;
- is varied and differentiated to individual learning needs;
- develops students' independence as a learner;
- assists students to prepare for upcoming classroom learning;
- is monitored by the teacher.

## Homework Guidelines:

Year Level	Homework Appropriate to phase of learning
Prep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Daily reading</b> to, with and by parents/caregiver or other family member</li> <li>• Recommended activities to develop literacy and numeracy: sound identification, number recognition and counting</li> <li>• Initiate conversations around what is happening at school</li> <li>• Preparation for upcoming classroom learning, such as collecting relevant materials and information</li> <li>• Involve child with familiar activities such as shopping, cooking, playing games and gardening</li> </ul>
Year 1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Daily reading</b> to, with and by parents/caregiver or other family member</li> <li>• Recommended activities to develop literacy and numeracy: sound identification, spelling, counting and number facts</li> <li>• Initiate conversations around what is happening at school</li> <li>• Preparation for upcoming classroom learning, such as collecting relevant materials and information</li> </ul>
Year 3-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reading</b> program according to specific needs of students eg independent reading; daily reading to, with and by parents</li> <li>• Spelling tasks</li> <li>• Recommended activities to develop literacy, numeracy and problemsolving skills (times tables)</li> <li>• Completing unfinished class work (not completed during class time)</li> <li>• Preparation for upcoming classroom learning, such as collecting relevant materials and information</li> <li>• Music practice for instrumental music students</li> </ul>

## Home Reading: The Importance of Regular Reading

All students at Birkdale South State School 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 positively linked to thinking skills and academic performance.