

HOMEWORK

This policy was last ratified by School Council in February 2015

Rationale:

Albion Primary School believes that homework is an important part of the educational experience that supports students' learning. Homework should not be a substitute for classroom instruction nor should it be used for disciplinary purposes. Homework will be assigned for one of the following purposes:

- To prepare for new learning
- Practice skills to increase speed and/or accuracy
- Deepen understanding of concepts learned.

Implementation:

Each stakeholder in a child's education (teachers, parents and the children themselves) all have roles and responsibilities related to homework.

Responsibilities of Staff

- Assign meaningful and appropriate homework that aligns with learning objectives
- Provide ongoing and clear guidance to ensure students understand the directions and reasons for the homework
- Provide timely and specific feedback for all homework assignments
- Recognise student effort
- Inform parents of the homework policy and their roles related to homework
- Promote quality work
- Assist students in being successful and in believing they are capable of doing the work.

Responsibilities of Parents

- Establish routines related to study times and study habits
- Provide a suitable environment and study area
- Reduce distractions
- Provide encouragement
- Communicate with the school/teacher if difficulties arise.

Responsibilities of Students

- Keep track of homework assignments (older students could use a diary/planner)
- Follow routines related to study times and study habits
- Establish an environment for learning (keep distractions to a minimum)
- Believe you can do the work
- Ask for assistance if necessary
- Produce high-quality work at all times
- Complete all homework on time.

Early Years (Prep – Year 4)

Homework will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day and will not be set on weekends or during vacation periods. (Section 3.23 of the department's Schools' Reference Guide)

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Reading activities to, with and by parents.
- Simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities.
- Gathering of additional information or materials.
- Unfinished classroom work may also be set as a homework task.

Middle Years (Years 5 – 6)

Homework will generally not exceed 45 minutes per day, must be coordinated between teachers to avoid excessive workload, and may be set during weekends and school vacations. (Section 3.23 of the department's Schools' Reference Guide)

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Independent reading on a daily basis
- Tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, essays and research
- Unfinished classroom work may also be set as homework tasks.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.