

Loxton Primary School



Vision: Dream Believe Learn Achieve

Values: Belonging Caring Learning Persisting Respecting

Policy: WORK AT HOME

Review Date: January 2020

Regulations under the Education Act, 1972 – 1975:

Homework

164. 1 Teachers may require that homework appropriate to the age and ability of a child shall be done by a child attending a government school.
2. Every teacher shall give sympathetic consideration to any objection from a parent regarding the amount of homework expected by the teacher from a child of that parent.

Loxton Primary School Work at Home Statement:

Work at home is compulsory except when there are exceptional circumstances and approval by the School Management. In this case a N.W.A.H (Negotiated Work at Home) program would be developed.

Rationale:

Homework should aim to:

- Maintain positive attitudes to learning.
- Be manageable by children and families.
- Cover a variety of activities which take into account the interests of children outside the school.
- Encourage parent involvement and interest in students' learning.
- Reinforce classroom activities.

Communication and shared family experiences are of primary importance to children's learning and self-esteem. Homework is a partnership between school and home. Teachers, parents and students each have responsibilities.

The teachers' role is to:

- provide homework appropriate for the varying abilities in the class.
- give clear guidance and advice on what is required in homework activities.
- provide a balance of open-ended, creative and practice activities eg: incorporating Lillico's Homework Grid, Multiple Intelligences and Blooms Taxonomy. (Examples to be attached).
- set work at home on a printed sheet or in diaries / communication books.
- monitor work at home on a regular basis.
- report to all parents on the level of effort in which work at home is completed.
- where appropriate, provide written feedback in the General Comment section of the School Report: eg: outstanding, rarely completed etc.
- have a documented work at home plan for students with special needs or circumstances.

The parent's role is to:

- assist their children where possible.
- talk to children about the work they are doing.
- communicate with the class teacher about homework.

The student's role is to:

- accept responsibility for the completion of homework.
- complete homework as well as they can.
- ask for help from their teacher and family if necessary.
- bring a note from home if work at home is not completed.



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Work at Home Guidelines:

The following guidelines are recommended in the setting of homework. They are **NOT** prescriptive and provide a general guidance only. Teachers use their professional judgement in planning a homework strategy for a class, group or individual.

The work at home policy of this school is intended to be flexible and acknowledge those children involved in after school activities.

Where a class is of split year levels, the maximum time is to be determined according to the policy, at the discretion of the teacher. (Eg: time to be at the upper level, or split the difference between the two year levels) This is to be outlined clearly to parents at the Class Acquaintance Evening.

Projects and assignments which occur over more than a week in total need to be dissected into sections, ie: feedback and or guidance given each week.

Work at Home Routines:

Time spent on work at home may vary from teacher to teacher and class to class. The teacher's expectation will be communicated in class newsletters and acquaintance night discussions.

Work at Home should renew and reinforce concepts taught in class and not introduce new content.

Work at Home routines recognise that children need to be active and include an understanding that many students are involved in extra-curricula activities / clubs and teams.

We recognise and acknowledge that work at home should not be onerous or disrupt family life.

Minimum and Maximum time per week to be spent on Work at Home: (this is a suggested split – with the total time an overall maximum, however some time must be allocated to each category every week).

| Year Level | Total Maximum Time | Literacy & Numeracy Tasks (minutes per week) | Home Tasks (minutes per week) |
|--------------------|--------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Reception – Year 2 | 35 minutes | 15 - 20 | 10 - 15 |
| Year 3 | 45 minutes | 20 - 25 | 15 - 20 |
| Year 4 | 60 minutes | 25 - 35 | 20 - 25 |
| Year 5 | 70 minutes | 30 - 40 | 20 - 30 |
| Year 6 | 80 minutes | 35 - 45 | 25 - 35 |

Note: The times shown are the norm. There may be special circumstances when the time could be less (eg: holidays/pupil free days), or slightly more (eg: leading up to a major event). Teachers should not depart from the times shown above in normal circumstances.

