



Why Homework:

The P – 12 Curriculum, assessment and reporting framework (P – 12 CARF) indicates that schools are required to develop a school homework policy. This policy has been developed with the input from staff and the P&C and is publicly available.

The school monitors homework to ensure that it is effective in supporting learning, allows sufficient time for family, recreation, community and cultural activities. It is also monitored to for equity of access. Parents are encouraged to discuss concerns around homework directly with the class teacher.

At Esk State School we believe that homework is effective in supporting learning when it has a clear purpose, when it enhances learning taking place at school, and when it helps children develop good study routines and habits at home.

The purpose of homework is to engage students in learning to complement work undertaken in class through:

- revision and reflection to consolidate learning (practise for mastery)
- applying knowledge and skills in new contexts (a topic of interest, an authentic local issue)
- pursuing knowledge individually and imaginatively (investigating, researching, writing, designing, making)
- preparing for forthcoming classroom learning (collecting relevant materials and information)

Homework Expectations:

Homework may be completed daily or over a weekly period and can take many forms. The age and grade of students, the purpose of the homework, and the requirements of each learning area are all determining factors.

As a general rule, at Esk State School homework will be distributed and collected on a weekly basis, covering the equivalent of four night’s work. Homework will commence in the second week of term one, and there will be no homework in the last week of each term, and the last two weeks of term four. Students will be rewarded for completing each of the homework tasks, and these rewards form part of the school’s approach to Positive Behaviours for Learning / Code of Student Conduct. Homework completion rates are reported in the end of Semester Report.

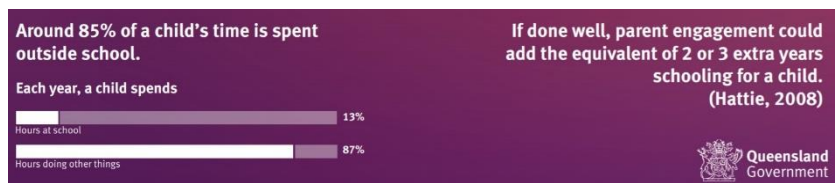
Each class teacher will provide specific details to students and their parents and carers about the routine for each class. Parents and carers are asked to guide their children in scheduling and allowing sufficient time during the week to complete the required homework content.

The Queensland Government has set out guidelines for homework, including the amount of time students should spend on homework each week. At Esk State School, it is recommended that students spend the following amounts of time doing homework:

- Prep - up to but generally not more than 15 minutes per day.
- Years 1, 2 and 3 - up to but generally not more than 15-20 minutes per day.
- Years 4 to 5 - up to but generally not more than 2-3 hours per week.
- Year 6 - up to but generally not more than 3-4 hours per week

Homework is not intended to be a stressful burden. If a child is having difficulty with a task, then leave the task and inform the teacher. Family-life is a priority and parents and carers are encouraged to help children develop a healthy balance between school life and home life.

Homework is at its best when parents, carers and other family members can become involved with the students.



Homework Format:

Homework at Esk State School is set out in a grid format. Each cell includes an activity that either consolidates literacy and numeracy learning at school or involves participating in a specific activity, eg. a job around the house, physical activity, reading to a family member, being read to, playing a game, or a cultural activity.

There are six cells in the homework grid for Prep – Year 2, and nine cells in the homework grid for Year 3 to 6.



The activities included in the grid will vary between year levels, however daily reading is essential to all year levels Prep to Year 6. All students from Prep to Year 6 are expected to engage in daily home reading.

Sample homework grid for Prep – 2:

<p>***READING (double reward) Student reading text according to home reader information below.</p>	<p>***Phonics</p>	<p>***MATHS (double reward)</p>
<p>*Spelling / Writing</p>	<p>*Sight words ○</p>	<p>*FOR SCHOOL THIS WEEK.... Prepare for oral speaking program Please bring Please collect</p>

Sample homework grid for years 3 – 6:

<p>***READING (double reward) Student reading text according to home reader information below.</p>	<p>***SPELLING / VOCAB (double reward) Students practice sight words / vocabulary and or spelling words.</p>	<p>***MATHS FACTS (double reward)</p>
<p>*MATHS (single reward) Students practice some of the maths and numeracy skills and processes being learnt in class.</p>	<p>*Grammar / Punctuation</p>	<p>*Comprehension task.</p>
<p>*DAILY CHORE Students can be expected to help at home by doing age and ability relevant jobs. These may include things like drying the dishes, making their bed, washing the dog, feeding the chooks, putting toys and games away, tidying bedrooms.... The list is endless!!</p>	<p>*Other Option... May vary from week-to-week. May include: ○ practise musical instrument ○ typing tutor ○ reading eggs/express ○ extension task – project</p>	<p>*FOR SCHOOL THIS WEEK.... Prepare for oral speaking program Please bring Please collect</p>

Home Reading Arrangements:

Reading and word knowledge experienced through text and oral language interactions are essential for learning. The more interactive language a child experiences through books and conversation with others the more advantaged socially and educationally that child will be for the rest of his or her life. The development of language skills is linked positively to thinking skills and school results.

Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
levelled readers (eg PM)	levelled readers (eg PM)	levelled readers (eg PM)-> lexilled home readers.	levelled readers (eg PM)-> lexilled home readers.	lexilled home readers -> library books	library books	Library books.