



## ***Homework Policy***

### **Rationale:**

Homework is valuable and important for children of all ages and is an important part of the teaching and learning process. However, Sherwood Ridge Public School acknowledges the importance of students having the opportunity for free time, leisure and physical activities outside of school.

### **Homework:**

- allows for practising and consolidating work done in class;
- provides training for students in planning and organising time;
- establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline which will serve students for the rest of their lives;
- provides parents and caregivers with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their children.

### ***Homework expectations***

#### **Parents and caregivers can help by:**

- taking an active interest in homework;
- encouraging and supporting students to complete homework;
- communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to the homework;
- alerting the school to any domestic or extracurricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or corrected;
- encouraging their children to read and take an interest in current events.

#### **Teachers can help by:**

- explaining to students and their parents or caregivers the purpose and benefits of homework;
- ensuring students and parents or caregivers are aware of the Sherwood Ridge Public School homework policy;
- providing quality homework activities related to class work;
- setting a suitable amount of relevant homework which is appropriate to the ability age and stage of each student;
- setting a combination of mandatory and optional tasks for students to complete, providing students with choice in relation to their homework tasks;
- ensuring that students are aware of what is expected of them, and how their work will be assessed;
- giving students sufficient time to complete their homework, taking into account, as far as possible, competing home obligations and extracurricular activities;
- marking homework promptly and appropriately, maintaining homework records and providing feedback to students and parents or caregivers;
- alerting parents or caregivers of any developing problems concerning their children's homework and suggesting strategies that they can use to assist their children with their homework.

### **Students can help by:**

- being aware of the importance of homework;
- completing homework within the given time frame;
- seeking assistance from teachers and parents or caregivers when difficulties arise;
- ensuring homework is of a high standard;
- organising their time to ensure that sufficient time is given to complete quality homework within set time frames.

### **Stage Homework Guidelines**

*Across all stages, homework is provided in a grid format and includes both mandatory and optional tasks.*

#### **Early Stage 1**

Students should spend no more than **10 minutes each day** on their homework. Homework in Early Stage 1 is set regularly and may include:

- children being read to for pleasure;
- practising initial sounds, numerals and sight words;
- collecting items e.g. colours, shapes and items to develop children's understanding of mathematical concepts;
- beginning research and topic talks e.g. preparation for presenting a weekly news item;
- home readers;
- Wushka tasks;
- Athletics tasks.

#### **Stage 1**

Students should spend no more than **15-20 minutes each day** on their homework. Homework in Stage 1 is set regularly and may include:

- consolidation exercises and revision e.g. mathematics and grammar;
- practising for mastery e.g. spelling words;
- reading for pleasure and being read to;
- researching topics for a class unit of work;
- collecting items from home to support the unit of work;
- written activities;
- home readers;
- Wushka tasks;
- Athletics tasks
- preparation for presenting topic talks or impromptu speeches.

#### **Stage 2**

The students should spend no more than **20-30 minutes each day** on their homework. Homework in Stage 2 is set regularly and may include:

- consolidation and revision exercises e.g. spelling and mathematics
- research activities;
- individual reading to encourage a love of literature;
- preparation for presenting speeches;
- Wushka tasks;
- Athletics tasks;
- Preparing presentations.

### **Stage 3**

Students in Stage 3 will be given homework across differing time periods. This may include daily, weekly, fortnightly or monthly homework tasks. Homework in Stage 3 may include:

- exercises that allow students to apply newly learnt skills or to revise and consolidate class work;
- preparatory research for students to gain background information to assist in class activities;
- assignments that encourage students to research information, investigate, monitor or make. Certain criteria will be set to ensure that the students are fully aware of the assignment expectations;
- speeches and presentations;
- individual reading to encourage a love of literature.

***These guidelines may vary slightly from year to year.***