

Lobethal Primary School

Homework Policy

The place of homework should be considered in light of significant international research findings of recent years. Professor John Hattie has compiled a body of research, which include the impact or otherwise of homework on learning. This policy builds on these findings.

Homework is an important opportunity to practice specific skills or complete unfinished work. Homework should not be aimed at new learning but rather an opportunity to rehearse skills introduced at school or to complete a known task. Homework tasks should be relevant and well considered. *This is not about homework for homework's sake.*

The approach we take for year 3-6 students is to set a range of tasks on a **homework grid**. The grid includes tasks that provide additional practise of skills taught class; practising a musical instrument or sport training; assisting and helping with chores around the home and personal projects. Families can manage when the tasks are completed over the week, making accommodations for other family commitments.

Should any student wish to attempt tasks other than described here, teachers will obviously acknowledge their individual efforts, however will not present it to other students as homework.

Early Years (Foundation to 2)

Homework should consist of reading and tricky word & letter/sound practice. Parents are encouraged to listen to reading regularly and rehearse words or sounds provided by the teacher.

Teachers should not require students to complete extended tasks as homework.

Children should be encouraged to engage in play and conversation rather than school based homework.

Middle Primary (Year 3 and 4)

Homework should still consist of reading, either as a levelled reader or texts borrowed from the library. It may also include spelling words if appropriate. Students may be expected to complete unfinished classroom work if the teacher deems that the student has not completed an appropriate amount or quality of work in a reasonable time period. Tasks will be shared with students and families via **their student diaries and a Homework Grid set fortnightly**.

The teacher should make all attempts to give students appropriate support to complete the tasks in class or play time before asking students to complete it for homework.

Upper Primary (Year 5 and 6)

Homework will be focussed on rehearsal of school learning rather than new skills. Students will often be required to complete independent learning tasks. Students will be expected to maintain independent

reading. Homework may include specific skill rehearsal and more independent research based learning. Work set on Google Classroom can be continued at home. **Tasks will be shared with students and families via their student diaries and a Homework Grid set fortnightly.**

Homework may also include work that the teacher deems to be unfinished after a reasonable allocation of class or play time.

Reader Bags, diaries and/or communication books will be used to communicate homework tasks.

Reviewed November 2021

Ratified by Governing Council March 2022