

Elliston Area School



HOMEWORK POLICY

At Elliston Area School we aim to ensure that homework is beneficial and meets the realistic expectations of students, teachers, parents and caregivers. Teachers believe that homework is a valuable part of a student's schooling and integral in preparation for their future. It allows for practicing, extending and consolidating work as well as reviewing concepts, ideas and skills introduced at school.

Homework develops skills for students in planning, independent working and time management. It also develops a range of skills in identifying and using out-of-school information sources, whilst establishing habits in study, concentration and self-discipline.

For parents and caregivers, homework provides an insight into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their child/ren. Homework is an opportunity for parents and caregivers to participate in their child's education. Parents and caregivers, in partnership with the school, should encourage their children to establish good homework patterns early. Homework is a great opportunity for parents and caregivers to work one-on-one with children to assist their progress. It is a positive time where families can share and work together toward a common goal. This one-on-one time is sometimes difficult for a teacher to achieve on a regular basis so homework provides parents - caregivers and children with this unique opportunity.

At Senior School level students should be independent learners, but parents / caregivers should be clear about the school's expectations for home study and discuss issues and concerns with their children and teachers.

It is important when setting and supervising homework that the teacher and parent/caregiver take into account the students' home responsibilities and extra curricular activities such as clubs, sport and part-time employment.

A balance between homework and a happy, healthy family is essential. It is a School Policy that no homework will be set on Friday nights in the primary and middle school. Occasionally students will be required to complete unfinished work over a weekend however this will not be a regular occurrence.

This year sports training nights will be on Wednesday and as a school we understand that this night is difficult for families to successfully complete all homework tasks. Therefore all homework set for Wednesday night is not collected by the teacher until Friday allowing the child two nights to complete the tasks.

At Elliston Area School we expect that each student participates in **10 - 20 minutes READING four times a week**. We believe that reading is a fundamental aspect of a child's education and that continual practice develops confidence. We also encourage children to read out aloud at all ages. The skill of reading aloud provides students with self confidence and assists in comprehension.

If a student is unable to complete their homework they have two options.

1. They can obtain a diary note from a parent / caregiver detailing the reasons behind the incomplete homework. Often students are allocated a number of nights to complete homework tasks. A parental note **will not** be accepted if the reason for incomplete homework does not apply over **all** allocated nights.
2. They can negotiate with their subject teacher before school or in home group for the homework to be completed at recess or lunch. If a student fails to complete their homework and attends the lesson with no negotiation taking place the individual will receive a red card and be required to complete the work at recess or lunch. If a student receives three red cards in a week a note will be sent home to the parents caregivers.

Junior Primary and Primary

Elliston Area School has adopted Excel Basic Skills English and Maths as a homework text. We believe that this text targets the appropriate level for student development and thoroughly covers a range of vital topics. We would also expect that students spend up to 10 - 20 reading four times a week. This also allows students to develop good routines throughout the week.

Junior Primary Homework (R-1)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading Sight Words Spelling Words Yr 1 Year 1 Basic Skills English (Unless Negotiated)	Reading Sight Words Spelling Words Yr 1 Year 1 Basic Skills Maths (Unless Negotiated)	Reading Sight Words Spelling Words Yr 1	Reading Sight Words	No Homework on Friday Night
		Physical Activity	Spelling Words Yr1	

Students in the Junior Primary are expected to participate in **10-15 minutes homework each night**. Reading, Sight Words and Spelling Words are seen as crucial developmental areas as well as Basic Skills, Maths and English for Year 1 students occasionally.

Year 2 - 3 Homework

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading Basic Skills Maths (Unless Negotiated)	Reading Spelling Words	Reading Tables Spelling Words	Reading Spelling Words	No Homework on Friday Night
	Tables	Physical Activity	Basic Skills English (Unless Negotiated)	

Students in the Primary are expected to participate in **20-30 minutes homework each night**. Reading, Tables, Sight Words and Spelling Words are seen as crucial developmental areas as well as Basic Skills Maths and English.

Year 4 - 5 Homework

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading Spelling Words Times Tables	Reading Spelling Words Times Tables	Reading Spelling Words Times Tables	Reading Spelling Words Times Tables	No Homework on Friday Night
	Basic Skills Maths or classroom extension tasks	Physical Activity	Basic Skills English or classroom extension tasks	

In the Primary years we believe that in addition to Reading and the Basic Skills Maths and English that Times Tables and Spelling are important areas of a child's development. Confidence in these areas will assist students throughout their entire lives. Time spent on homework activities is at the parent / caregiver discretion but we suggest that a **maximum of 45 minutes** be spent.

Middle and Senior School

This year Secondary students will be required to read for 20 minutes, four times per week. The onus is on your child to bring their diary to you filled in with the title of the book and the number of pages they have read, ready for you to sign. We believe that reading and reading aloud are essential skills to have and we encourage each student to practice regularly.

Year 6 – 7 Homework

Approximately 15 - 20 minutes per subject per night for up to 3 subjects per night

Year 8 - 10 Homework

Approximately 20 - 30 minutes per subject per night for up to 3 subjects per night

Year 12 Homework

Approximately 40 + minutes per subject per night for up to 3 subjects per night