

HOMework POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff Canadian Lead Primary School's homework expectations.

Scope

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting homework.

Implementation

Canadian Lead Primary School acknowledges that homework should be adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.

Foundation to Year 4

From Foundation to Year 4 the objective of homework is to practice and consolidate the literacy concepts that have been introduced during class time through home reading. Using a home reading diary and take-home books introduces the concepts of self-discipline and responsibility which helps prepare students for increasing homework expectations as they progress through school.

Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/carers or older siblings and for younger students, practicing letter sounds.

We ask that families support their students to complete 20 minutes of home reading five times per week. Home reading is not expected over the weekends or during holidays, however some families find it more convenient to complete reading over the weekend to make up the five nights. This is up to individual families.

Years 5/6

In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and organisation to prepare students for secondary school.

Assigned homework tasks will include:

- Daily independent reading of 20 minutes five times per week. Home Reading diaries are due in class every Friday.
- A homework sheet handed out every Thursday. This sheet must be completed and returned by the following Tuesday.
- Teachers may on occasion send home uncompleted class work or ask students to research or read about a particular topic.

Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework and while no homework tasks will be specifically assigned over the weekends or during the holidays, families may choose to use the weekend to complete weekly homework if this is more convenient.

Year 5/6 students who are not able to complete their homework by the due day will take part in 'Homework Club' for a short period of recess or lunchtime over the following two school days. This is not a punitive measure but a way to fully support students to develop the organisational skills essential for success at secondary school. Some students may not have the facilities at home to complete weekly homework and 'Homework Club' can also be used by students who prefer to complete their work at school.

Year 5/6 students who do not bring their completed home reading diary to school on Friday will spend some time during lunchtime Friday reading in their classroom. Again, this is not punitive, but a way of developing organisation skills in preparation for secondary school.

Shared expectations and responsibilities

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. In order to get the most out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Canadian Lead Primary School will support students by:

- Fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children.
- Ensuring the school's homework policy is relevant to the needs of students.
- Advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and ensuring this homework policy is available on the school website and in enrolment packs.
- Encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment.
- Providing a range of communication options between home and school regarding homework and home reading, including home reading diaries, email, phone calls and Seesaw, our classroom communication app.

Year 5/6 teachers at Canadian Lead Primary School will:

- Where possible set challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs.
- Give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities.
- Correct homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support as needed.
- Help students develop organisational and time-management skills.
- Ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy.
- Communicate with parents/carers regarding homework as required.

It is expected that Year 5/6 students will take responsibility for their own learning by:

- Being aware of the school's homework policy.
- Discussing with their parents/carers homework expectations.
- Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames.
- Following up on comments made by teachers.
- Seeking assistance when difficulties arise.
- Organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment.

It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by:

- Developing a positive and productive approach to homework.
- Ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities.
- Reading to children, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity.
- Talking to teachers about any concerns they have about home reading (F-6) and homework (Years 5/6).
- Ensuring their child/ren uses their home reading diary.
- Where possible attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in.
- Discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences if this is relevant.
- Linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community as required.
- Where possible providing a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks.

Support for students, parents and carers

Teachers at Canadian Lead Primary School understand that students have different interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If parents or carers are concerned that their child may not understand the homework tasks or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, they are encouraged to speak to their classroom teacher.

Exemptions or adaptations can be made on a case by case basis by speaking to the Principal or classroom teacher.

Further Information and Resources

School Policy and Advisory Guide:

- o [Homework Guidelines](#)
- o [Homework Expectations](#)

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier as required.

Signed:

Susan Knight

Principal

Date: February 2020

Signed:

Sophie Akers

School Council President

Date: February 2020

This policy was reviewed by the Policy Subcommittee on:	N/A
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This policy was ratified by School Council on:	18 th February 2020
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