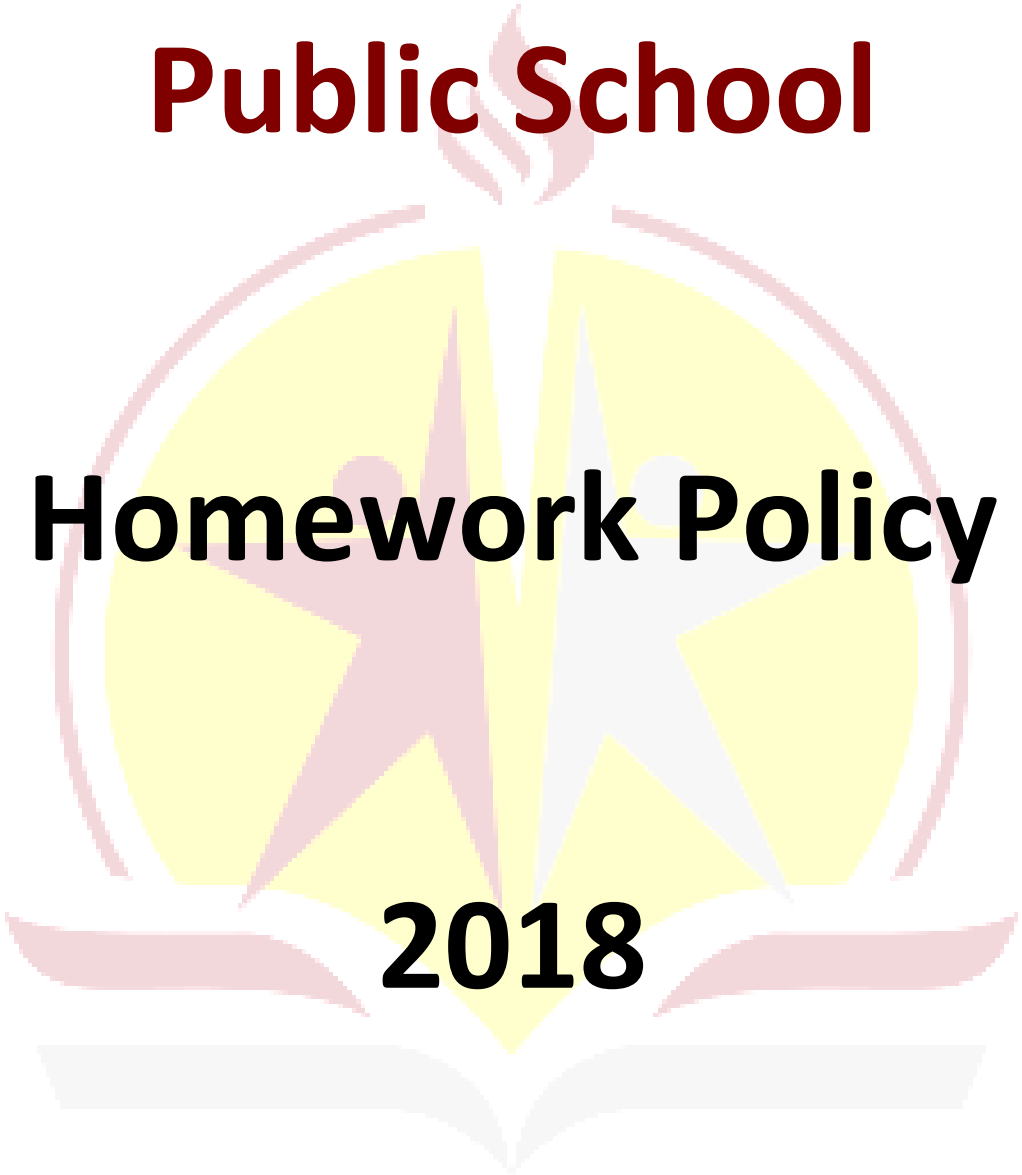


Victoria Avenue Public School

Homework Policy

2018

The logo is a circular emblem with a yellow background. At the top, a stylized figure in a reddish-pink color holds a torch. Below the figure, a white star is centered. At the bottom, an open book is depicted in a light grey color. The entire emblem is framed by a thin reddish-pink border.

Rationale

The Department of Education's Policy on homework stipulates that homework is not compulsory however having a school based homework policy is. Our homework is based on a homework grid developed by Ian Lillico during his research in 2010. He believed that homework should be work done at home and cover a range of areas in order to build relationships, social skills, responsibility, fitness, cultural awareness, creativity through the arts and an opportunity to apply new learning to real life situations. Staff at Victoria Avenue PS support this philosophy and also believe that play, in its various forms is an essential part of every child's learning at home and at school.

Parent feedback was collected and collated in 2015 and 2016 and this information along with information gained from teachers at staff meetings was used to form the basis of this updated Homework Policy for 2017.

Teachers will outline homework expectations to parents at the Parent Meet and Greet Evening at the beginning of each school year.

Important Information about Homework.

- Homework is not compulsory.
- There will be no set homework other than home reading for Kindergarten students. Parents/carers of students in Years 1-6, can choose if they would like their child to complete homework or not.
- A homework grid with tasks will be sent electronically every second Monday for participating students in Years 1-6. There will be a grid for Years 1 & 2 and a separate grid for Years 3-6.
- Students will have two school weeks to work on tasks from the grid at home.
- The expected duration of homework should be age appropriate and should take into account the individual differences of students and family commitments.
- Students who participate in outside programs such as speech therapy or occupational therapy should count these as homework tasks.
- Homework **will not** be set as a means of discipline.
- From time to time students will not be able to complete homework tasks for a variety of reasons such as personal illness or extenuating family obligations. In these instances parents should include a short written note to the teacher on the homework grid.

- The student should be able to cope with the level of homework and complete homework whilst still having time for recreational and play activities. If a parent sees that a child has worked conscientiously at a task for a reasonable amount of time but has not completed it, they should be sensitive to the child's needs.
- Parents should offer support to their child but should refrain from doing the homework tasks for them.
- Positive student attitudes towards homework are important. Parents and teachers should consistently praise and provide positive reinforcement to acknowledge student efforts with homework tasks.

Home Reading

- It is expected that all students will participate in a class Home Reading Program. This will involve students taking home readers at an appropriate level. The program may vary from class to class or student to student according to need. Students who are fluent and competent readers beyond Level 30 may use library books or other books from home under the guidance of the class teacher.

	Suggested time for home reading tasks
Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)	5-10 minutes
Stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2)	10-20 minutes
Stage 2 (Year 3 and Year 4)	10-20 minutes
Stage 3 (Year 5 and Year 6)	Minimum of 20 minutes

Monitoring, Evaluation and review

Teachers will monitor the homework grid as required each term. The Homework Policy will be evaluated and reviewed in consultation with students and parents.