

KEITH AREA SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

The school practices with regard to homework are based on the Education Act:

Regulation 164 (1) Teachers may require that homework appropriate to the age and ability of a child shall be done by a child attending a government school.

Regulation 164 (2) Every teacher shall give sympathetic consideration to any objection from a parent regarding the amount of homework expected by a teacher from a child of that parent.

Homework is an integral part of the teaching and learning programme at Keith Area School.

The main purpose of homework is to consolidate, practise and review concepts, ideas and skills introduced at school. Regular homework assists students develop good study habits.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TEACHERS

Teachers at Keith Area School:

- ensure that homework is relevant and linked to the classroom programme
- take into account access to and availability of resources which can often represent a significant barrier to completion of homework
- ensure homework tasks are clearly explained and supported by appropriate written documentation
- ensure that homework is appropriate to individual students' abilities
- ensure that the amount of homework is based on realistic expectations of the time it will take to complete
- monitor homework and provide prompt feedback
- use homework to support learning rather than for any punitive reason.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS

- monitor homework through the use of the school diary
- identify a suitable homework environment
- communicate any concerns about homework to the class or subject teacher
- expect students to be increasingly independent as they progress through the school
- provide support and advice in a manner appropriate to the age of the student.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS

- record homework in the school diary
- complete homework according to set guidelines and deadlines
- communicate any concerns about homework to the class or subject teacher
- become increasingly self regulated as they progress through to senior secondary.

NATURE OF HOMEWORK

A. JUNIOR PRIMARY (R-2)

Students are required to participate in shared literacy and numeracy experiences with parents.

- Literacy experiences may include oral reading and discussion, completion of extension work or spelling activities.
- Numeracy experiences may include number, measurement, space, data collection or patterning focus.

Duration of homework is 5 to 15 minutes/night, 4 nights per week.

Homework is expected to be signed by parents and written comments made when appropriate.

B. PRIMARY (3 - 6)

Students are required to complete work relating to a range of curriculum areas. Types of tasks may include literacy and numeracy activities. Other activities may include research projects, surveys, evaluations, thinking skills, grids, quizzes, contracts, completion of work, regular reading and word lists. Collection of materials in advance for special school projects may also be required.

Homework is set 4 nights a week.

Duration of homework per night is from 10 to 25 minutes. Diaries are to be signed by parents regularly.

C. MIDDLE SCHOOL (7 - 9)

Students have a combination of short term and longer assignment tasks as part of their homework. The latter will often contribute to school grades. Homework is set Monday - Thursday. Where students are absent or do not complete set class work, it is likely they will have to complete work on weekends to "catch up".

Students have homework for 2 subjects each night, depending on the homework timetable published at the beginning of each term.

They will be required, on average, to spend the following amount of time on homework:

Year 7	20 minutes per subject per night
Year 8	25 minutes per subject per night
Year 9	30 minutes per subject per night

Students who do not complete homework will be required to report to the Work Centre at lunchtime or make up incomplete work as additional homework.

D. SENIOR SCHOOL (10 - 12)

Given a significant number of subjects studied by Yr 10 students and all those by Yr 11 and 12 students are SACE units, the amount of work is dictated by SACE requirements. It is expected that work will be done as required. Much of the work is set over extended periods of time, requiring students to plan their use of time.

Dated: July 2005

To be reviewed: July 2007

Implementation of Homework (and Out of hours work) policy

- Subject teachers check that Homework is entered in diaries
- Home group teachers check that diaries are filled in by their students and signed weekly by parent/caregiver.
- Time Taken' to be monitored by home group teacher.
 - Tasks set should be related to course work, but should not just be 'continuation' or 'complete' type activities, that can penalise slower students and hold back faster students. (Preferably tasks of more than one night's duration to encourage student organisation).
- ensure that homework are clearly explained, is relevant and appropriate to individual students' abilities, and linked to the classroom programme
- ensure that the amount of homework is based on realistic expectations of the time it will take to complete
- take into account access to and availability of resources, especially access to internet, which can often represent a significant barrier to completion of homework
- monitor homework and provide prompt feedback
- Any assignments lasting longer than one week should have a "teacher check", (eg submit a draft, part A,...) mid task to ensure that students are on the right track (or on the track at all!).

10-12

Be mindful of the time guidelines in SSASBSA curriculum.

Be aware that students have demands from their other subjects as well as out of school and family commitments.

Some flexibility allowed in submission time for Weekend assignment, eg 4pm Monday, 9am Tuesday, to allow for situations beyond student control – eg family away for the entire weekend.