

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS POLICY

“The current evidence and research shows that the quality of Home Learning assigned is likely to be more important than the quantity. Research has established that Home Learning has a positive effect on learning, particularly at the middle and secondary school levels (Xu, 2010; Zimmerman & Kitsantas, 2005). Although Home Learning’s effectiveness has been challenged by educators, parents, and students (Kohn, 2006), it continues to be an important educational supplement used by most teachers to enhance the learning experience of their students (Patall, Cooper, & Wynn, 2010). Overall, the effectiveness of Home Learning is enhanced by providing students with choices among Home Learning tasks, which will result in higher motivational and performance outcomes, students’ autonomy, and intrinsic motivation (Patall et al., 2010).” **DET Homework Guidelines**

## INTRODUCTION

The Kensington Primary School (KPS) Home Learning Policy aims to develop positive work habits. Home Learning provides the opportunity for parents / guardians to be active in their child’s learning. The Home Learning Policy provides suggested home learning activities for each year level.

KPS understands that each family will have different ideas about how best to create a balanced lifestyle for their family, including sufficient time for family, sport, recreation, cultural activities and home learning activities.

## PURPOSE

To provide the school community with home learning guidelines.

To support student learning at home by;

- complementing and reinforcing classroom learning,
- fostering lifelong learning and positive work habits (goal-setting, self-efficacy, self-reflection and time management,
- provide students with opportunities to practise skills, review content and deepen understanding of concepts learned,
- providing an opportunity for students to become responsible for their own learning, and
- supporting partnerships with parents by connecting families with the learning of their children.

## IMPLEMENTATION

- Teachers will advise parents of home learning guidelines through written communication at the commencement of the school year.
- Team Facilitators, through liaison with their year level colleagues, will be responsible for ensuring that an approach consistent with policy is practised.
- Completing home learning is a decision made by individual families, however is encouraged by the school. Teachers do not correct home learning tasks as the focus is on fostering positive study habits and practising basic skills to improve fluency.
- Home learning will vary according the grade level (as outlined below) and will be in accordance with DET guidelines.

## KENSINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOLS HOME LEARNING GUIDELINES

### **Foundation**

- 10 minutes of reading to, with or by parents/guardians and revision of high frequency words.
- Other Activities: for example, preparing Inquiry Show and Tell, projects or bringing special items to school.  
Total: 10 - 15 minutes per day.

### **Year 1 and 2**

- Reading: 10 minutes of reading to, with or by parents/guardians and revision of high frequency words.
- Spelling: Words from students' own writing or high frequency words.
- Mathematics: Number facts to 10 and activities from the Maths Home Learning Matrix.
- Other Activities: for example, preparing Inquiry Show and Tell, projects or bringing special items to school.  
Total: 20 minutes per day.

#### **Year 3 and 4**

- Reading: 15 minutes of reading to, reading with or by parents/guardians or independent reading.
- Spelling: Words from students' own writing, high frequency words or challenge words.
- Mathematics: Learning multiplication facts and activities from the Maths Home Learning Matrix.
- Other tasks such as research, projects and completing classroom work may be assigned as agreed by grade level teams.  
Total: 25 minutes per day.

#### **Year 5 and 6**

- Reading: 20 minutes of reading to, reading with or by parents/guardians or independent reading.
- Spelling: Words from students' own writing or challenge words.
- Mathematics: Learning multiplication facts and activities from the Maths Home Learning Matrix.
- Other tasks such as research, projects and assignments and completing classroom work may be assigned as agreed by grade level teams.  
Total: 30 minutes per day.

#### RESOURCES

There are a range of useful links and resources available on the school website for parents/guardians/students to access.

#### EVALUATION

The Home Learning Policy will be reviewed as part of the school's annual policy review cycle.

**This policy was approved by Kensington School Council.      Date: May 2017**

**This policy will be reviewed in 2019.**