Homework Policy

Education Queensland has guidelines for student homework emphasising the need for balance between family life and consolidating classroom learning.

It is commonly accepted that bringing academic learning into children's home life helps to develop a positive and supportive family attitude to learning. Homework bridges the gap between learning at school and learning at home.

Rationale:
Goondiwindi State School believes that homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, pattern behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning. The setting of homework takes into account the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, recreation and cultural pursuits.

Homework that enhances student learning:
- is purposeful and relevant to students needs
- is appropriate to the phase of learning (early, middle, senior)
- is appropriate to the capability of the student
- develops the student's independence as a learner
- is varied, challenging and clearly related to classroom work
- consolidates newly learned skills
- allows for student commitment to recreational, family and cultural activities

Purpose:
Homework can engage students in independent learning to complement work undertaken in class through:
- revision and critical reflection to consolidate learning (practise for mastery)
- applying knowledge and skills in new contexts (a topic of interest, an authentic local issue)
- pursuing knowledge individually and imaginatively (investigating, researching, writing, designing, making)
- preparing for forthcoming classroom learning (collecting relevant materials, items, information)

Homework Schedule:
(DETA - Homework - in State Schools Policy)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Homework Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Generally no homework is set in Prep - at GSPS homework in Prep is optional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1-3</td>
<td>Will not exceed 1 hour per week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Will not exceed 2 -3 hours per week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6 &amp; 7</td>
<td>Will not exceed 3-4 hours per week(Year 8 &amp; 9 = 5hrs/week)</td>
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Responsibilities:
- Students - to be prepared to learn
- Teachers - to provide a quality educational program
- Parents/Caregivers - to support the education of your children
HOMEWORK SET UP:
To reflect our belief that our students need to have the opportunity to consolidate their classroom learning as well as a balanced lifestyle, our homework set up is based on 'The Homework Grid' (Ian Lillico 2004)

WHAT IS A HOMEWORK GRID?
Homework is set out in a grid format of 9 or 12 cells depending on the time period that the homework is to be completed within.

Each cell represents an amount of time eg 5 - 10 minutes, indicative of the year level of the student.

Each cell includes an activity that either consolidates learning at school or involves participating in a specific activity eg. a job around the house, physical activity, reading to a family member, being read to, playing a game or a cultural activity.

The activities included on the Homework Grid and length of time to complete each grid, are decided by each year level. Activities and time period should consider age and ability of the students.

Students are expected to complete each cell within the homework time period. Parents are to mark each cell as completed.

REWARDS FOR DOING HOMEWORK
• Dot
• Recorded on Class homework chart

HOW DO WE SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS WITH HOMEWORK?
• If students are unable to complete homework at home - they will have the opportunity to do so in library each morning/morning tea and lunchtime

SCHOOL ORGANISATION
• Homework Club

NON-COMPLETION OF HOMEWORK
• Students will be asked to complete their homework in their own break time eg they take themselves to the library to work on their homework
• After 3 consecutive weeks a ‘failure to complete homework’ letter will be sent home to advise parents.
• Parents will be asked to acknowledge this letter
• All communication will be recorded on One School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read a variety of books including school books</td>
<td>Be read to by another member of the family</td>
<td>Shopping with parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical activity/sport training</td>
<td>Housework (Compulsory each night)</td>
<td>Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teach your parents something you were taught at school</td>
<td>Play a game with an adult</td>
<td>Assignments/Project research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relaxation activity</td>
<td>Use a computer for work</td>
<td>Cultural/Music practice</td>
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