



Narrogin Senior High School
LOWER SCHOOL HOMEWORK

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1. Rationale

Homework is an essential part of the learning process and as such plays an important part in consolidating skills and understanding, and assisting student's progress. All students must be treated equitably, without discrimination or bias.

2. The purpose of homework

Homework can support higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school. It also extends the time available for the exploration of new ideas and new situations.

Homework can also extend the time available to the teacher for the monitoring of student progress.

There is a community expectation that secondary schools, in particular, will set and mark homework. [DoE Homework Guidelines]

Homework must never be given as a punishment.

3. Types of homework

Homework may take a number of forms such as:

- Completing tasks begun in class
- Assignment tasks of long or short duration
- Drafting and editing assessments
- Completing activities from set texts (in order to consolidate skills)
- Learning spelling words
- Journal writing
- Reading: this may take the form of assigned reading or students reading in order to further enrich their understanding of genre or literature in general.
- Viewing television programs, such as "catalyst"

Homework must be of a nature which does not discriminate and therefore should be structured so that any necessary resources must be accessible to all students.

Teachers should not assume that all students have access to the internet, library or parent assistance.

4. Study

Study is different to homework in that it consists of revising and learning key concepts in this learning area. Study skills may need to be explicitly taught; these skills are consolidated as students progress through years 8-10.

5. Recommended Guidelines

5.1 Duration and frequency

The recommended maximum time for lower-school students is

- Year 8: 30 minutes per subject per week
- Year 9: 45 minutes per subject per week
- Year 10: 1 hour per subject per week

Learning areas may allocate homework tasks up to four times per week.

Teachers should consider the duration and frequency of homework, taking into account study time in preparation for tests. Where possible, teachers should advise students of the expected duration for completion of individual tasks. Consideration should be given to students with learning difficulties who may take longer to complete tasks; tasks should be modified where appropriate.

5.2 Due dates

Duration and adequate time must be considered when assigning due dates. A minimum of one school day separation must be given, for example for a task given on Monday must not be required to be submitted until Wednesday. This acknowledges that students may have other commitments, such as sport or part time work, and allows them to manage their time. It should not be assumed that students will have opportunity to complete homework over weekends or holidays.

5.3 Balance across learning areas

Some learning areas will deem that homework is not necessary in their subject. Learning areas must adhere to the duration per subject area to ensure that students are not overloaded at any particular time of term.

6. Assessments

Students must be informed whether homework tasks are assessable, and their weightings. The school's lower-school assessment policy deals with extensions, deductions for late submissions etc.