The NSW Department of Education and Communities’ homework policy requires each NSW public school to develop a local homework policy.

The department policy states that a school’s policy should be:
- Relevant to the needs of students
- Developed in consultation with the school community, and
- Shared with staff, students, parents and caregivers - particularly at the time of enrolment.

### Recommended Time Allocation and Content

**Early Stage 1**
- No formal homework
- Recommended activities include Home Reading and support of sound work.

**Stage 1**
- Up to but no more than 15 minutes per day
- Basic Skills
- Reading Log
- Learning Journal

**Stage 2**
- Up to but no more than 20 minutes per day
- Basic Skills
- Reading Log
- Learning Journal
- 1 Student Project during the year designed to promote independent learning and foster student interest areas.

**Stage 3**
- Up to but no more than 30 minutes per day
- Basic Skills
- Reading Log
- Learning Journal
- 1 Student Project during the year designed to promote independent learning and foster student interest areas.

During Semester 2, Year 6 students will be exposed to a varying homework model aimed at preparation for High School expectations.
**Kendall Public School Homework Policy**

Following consultation with the school community the following statements apply to the Kendall Public School Community:

- Homework tasks are valued
- There is an acceptance that parental expectations are varied and that it is challenging to provide an approach to homework that all parents and caregivers will be satisfied with
- There is a common desire for a consistent approach across the school
- There is a common belief that there should be a balance between homework and other activities such as sporting activities, family interests, personal interests and play.

Our approach to Homework is research based and our policy is intended to clearly define the purpose of homework, how it will be implemented and communicated and what the responsibilities of each stakeholder are.

Our Homework Policy is available upon request or can be downloaded from the School Website.

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**Purpose of Homework**

Teachers will provide students with the opportunity to complete homework to:

- foster the development of positive learning behaviour and work habits
- promote and support a developing love of reading
- provide for consolidation of basic skills
- promote students' interests, learning styles and creative learning
- support positive and interactive parent / child learning opportunities where parents have the opportunity to become involved in student learning and role model positive attitudes towards learning
- promote hot topics / key focus areas
- foster consolidation and enrichment

**“There is little consensus in the literature as to whether homework raises student achievement. Most researchers, however, conclude that for primary students, there is little evidence that homework lifts academic performance”**

DEC Homework Guidelines.

**Through homework, students can learn to use resources effectively and develop good study habits.** (Blazer, 2009)

Researchers also suggest that homework can improve students:

- time management and organisational skills
- attitudes towards school

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**Important:**

Whilst teachers will promote student participation in the Homework program and encourage completion of tasks and participation in Learning Journal sharing opportunities, students will not be forced to participate and there will be no disciplinary action taken for non completion.

**How to support your child:**

- provide your child with a quiet area to complete their homework
- provide minimal assistance
- provide access to a computer with internet access if possible to access useful websites for basic skill consolidation
- read with your child, talk about the book, ask questions, get them to make predictions
- talk to your child’s teacher if you have any concerns

**Additional Information**

- if you do not have access to a computer or the internet, please inform your child’s teacher
- teachers will provide advice to parents requesting additional homework eg resources, relevant websites, books etc but will not provide additional work or formally assess additional work completed at home. However, students electing to complete interest projects at home will be welcome to share their work with the class during sharing sessions
- no homework will be distributed in the first or last weeks of term. Term 4 homework will end in Week 6.
- a homework grade will not be included on student progress reports but relevant comments may be made in the General Comment area.