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Homework Guidelines

Rationale

These guidelines are based on the information from the 2018 parent survey, staff recommendations and on a research scan undertaken by the Department of Education in 2012. School data confirms that overall, the school community values education and there are expectations that every student will progress in their learning every year. The staff work in partnership with parents to ensure that the school is an optimal learning environment for learning and to ensure that students achieve their learning goals.

In reviewing homework at Charlestown East Public School the information below was considered :

- The DoE research scan was unable to ascertain 'conclusive evidence of the learning benefits of homework in infants and primary schools, quality homework in these stages may help students to develop effective work habits and broaden their understandings and skills across the curriculum'.
- The complexity of family life and the high levels of participation in after school activities within our school community and the benefit of these on student wellbeing, physical development, social development and skill development.
- The parent survey data, which identifies that 59% of parents value homework and the tasks that are most manageable in the home setting and have the highest level of interest to their children. The survey also indicated that 75% of parents thought that the current amount of homework is appropriate.

In conclusion, to best support the needs of the whole school community, homework will be organised similarly to its current format. Weekly set tasks will provide opportunities for students to reinforce key learning in maths and English aligned with the content covered in class.

Policy Statement

These guidelines identify the purpose and value of homework and establish school wide expectation for the implementation of homework.

Implementation

Homework tasks are provided for parents to administer at home. It is not new learning but provides activities for parents to use if they would like their child to reinforce the learning completed at school, or in the older years, develop regular study habits in preparation for high school. It is not compulsory and will not be reported on in the semester report.

As the students move through their school years, the amount of homework will increase and the format of the homework will facilitate a higher level of independence.

During each school term, primary students will be assigned a project based task that could be a consolidation of the learning completed during a unit of work or on a topic of personal interest to the student.

School Responsibilities

- Develop and monitor the implementation of the homework guidelines based on the needs of the whole school community
- Ensure consistency of practice across classes within the grade and across the school
- Provide sufficient information to enable parents to support their child's learning at home as requested



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Teacher Responsibilities

- Each teacher will provide homework tasks for the students in their class each week
- Homework will be differentiated to cater for students who require adjustments for their learning
- Each teacher will check homework when it is returned each week
- As homework is provided as an option for students to reinforce their learning, homework will not be reported on in the semester reports
- Discuss other home learning options with parents if requested
- Provide homework on the identified digital platform and/or hard copy as required
- Provide task criteria and feedback for project based learning tasks

Parent Responsibilities

- Support their child to complete homework tasks
- Communicate with the teacher regarding additional homework needs for their child or for clarification on homework tasks

Work collaboratively with teachers to support the additional learning needs of their child

Grade	Tasks Assigned	Platform	Monitoring and feedback
Kindergarten	Weekly sight word card and daily home reader	Hard copy provided	Comment in home reading diary
Year 1	Spelling list, grammar, home reading and maths	Hard copy provided	Teacher check and sign hard copy Comment in home reading diary
Year 2	Spelling list, grammar, home reading, maths and a physical task	Hard copy provided	Teacher check and sign hard copy Comment in home reading diary
Years 3-6	Mathletics, spelling list and activities, reading tasks, project based learning	Google Classroom	Feedback provided for projects Student self-reflection Weekly tasks checked
Support classes	Tasks negotiated on an individual basis in relation to personalised learning goals	Hard copy	Individual feedback to parents

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The implementation of these guidelines will be monitored by the executive team as part of grade/stage based planning and fortnightly grade/stage meetings. The guidelines will be evaluated through staff, student and parent surveys and will be reviewed after two years.

Michelle Unterrheiner
Principal
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