

Philosophical Basis

At Birmingham Primary School homework helps students by:

- Complimenting, reinforcing and extending classroom learning
- Fostering good lifelong learning and study habits and
- Providing an opportunity for students to become responsible for their own learning.

IMPLEMENTATION

At Birmingham Primary School we try to ensure to set homework that supports educational requirements.

Homework should be:

- appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- consolidating prior classroom learning
- purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- interesting, challenging and when appropriate, open ended
- assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided
- balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities
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Helping Students – Suggestions

Parents and carers can help students with their homework by:

- helping students establish a home study routine
- encouraging a regular daily session to examine and complete homework
- discussing key questions or suggesting resources to help with homework
- helping to balance the time spent between homework and recreational activities
- asking how homework and class work is progressing, and acknowledging success
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- talking to teachers about any homework problems
- ensuring students complete a reading log or diary
- discussing their child's responses to set texts and asking to see their completed work
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language.

Teachers can help students with their homework by:

- Discussing homework expectations at Parent Information sessions
- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- helping students establish a home study routine
- giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assessing homework and providing timely and practical feedback and support
- helping students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensuring parents and carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- ensuring that students who are having difficulty completing homework are invited to attend a 'homework support group' to be organised by each year level.

Junior School (Grades F-2) Homework Guidelines

In line with the Birmingham PS Homework Policy, Junior School students are required to complete no more than 30 minutes of home activities each weeknight. These activities will include reading, practising common words, vocabulary and on occasion homework from a specialist subject.

Students are required to:

- read 4 times per week for a minimum of 20 minutes and record their reading in their Reading Log
- bring their BPS book bag and signed Take Home Reading Log to school every day
- practise spelling words

Teachers will:

- ensure 'Take Home Books' are changed regularly
- check reading logs regularly
- regularly assess children's reading
- support students to choose suitable books at their level

Parents and caregivers can help their child by:

- providing a quiet place for their child to read and encourage them to read often
- making reading an enjoyable experience
- listen to and with your child every time they read.
- completing the Reading Log entry
- ensuring that the BPS book bag and reading log is returned to school each day
- discussing the text read with their child
- discussing concerns with the classroom teacher

Middle School (Grade 3 and 4) Homework Guidelines

In line with the Birmingham PS Homework Policy, Middle School students are required to complete no more than 30 minutes of home activities each weeknight. These activities will include reading, practising common words, vocabulary and on occasion homework from a specialist subject.

Students are required to:

- have a 'just right book' to read at home every day
- read for a minimum of four nights a week for a minimum twenty minutes
- record their reading in their Take Home Reading Log
- have their log completed each night they read.
- submit their completed homework and signed Reading Log to the teacher no later than the date set.
- seek assistance from the teacher prior to the due date if unsure of a homework task

Teachers will:

- provide opportunities for students to borrow during library sessions
- support students to choose suitable texts
- ensure task/s is suitable to the student's skill level
- ensure task/s is purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- check reading logs regularly
- provide timely and practical feedback to students
- clearly communicate to parents the task/s requirements

Parents and caregivers can help their child by:

- providing support to students to complete task/s requirements
- providing a quiet place to read
- reading to and with your child on a regular basis
- Assisting their child to complete the reading log or diary
- Discussing the text read with their child
- Asking how task/s and class work is progressing and acknowledging effort
- Discussing child's responses and asking to see completed work
- Encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
- Encouraging them to seek assistance from the teacher prior to the due date if they are unsure of a homework task
- Contacting the teacher to discuss any problems their child is having with task/s

Senior School (Grade 5 and 6) Homework Guidelines

In line with the Birmingham PS Homework Policy, Senior School students are required to complete no more than 45 minutes of home activities four nights a week. These activities will include reading, spelling, mathematics and learning tasks related to the classroom/specialist programs.

Students are required to:

- have a 'just right' book to read at home every day
- read for a minimum of five times a week for a minimum of 20 minutes
- record their reading in a log (paper or digital)
- complete home activities as set by the teacher, including spelling activities and maths activities
- access their homework via the Classroom Google Site
- submit their completed homework and diary to their teacher no later than set date.
- seek assistance from the teacher no later than the two days before the due date if unsure of a homework task

Teachers will:

- provide opportunities for students to borrow during library sessions
- support students to choose suitable texts
- provide tasks that are purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- provide timely and practical feedback to students
- help students develop the organisational and time management skills required for them to be responsible for their own learning.

Parents and caregivers can help their child by:

- providing them with support to complete homework task/s requirements
- checking task requirements by logging onto the Google Classroom Site
- discussing the texts read with their child
- encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
- encouraging them to set aside regular times to read and complete tasks
- asking how homework tasks and class work are progressing and acknowledging effort
- discussing their responses and asking to see their completed work
- encourage their child to discuss any problems they are having with tasks to develop independence

OTHER DEPARTMENTAL AND SCHOOL RELATED POLICIES

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag>

BUDGET

This policy does not require a specific budget.

EVALUATION

The Education Sub-Committee will review the policy within a three year cycle.

The policy was last updated in November 2019. Shared with School Council December 2019 Due for renewal 2023