Henley Brook
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

- 01/05/2025

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Policy

Teachers at Henley Brook Primary School do not provide students with formal homework or implement a formal homework regime. There may be times, however, when students are required to complete an activity at home to contribute to a classroom task (such as collect data for a graph or conduct research for a project). Additionally, if a student has not completed a set task during the school day, they may be asked to complete the task at home.

Students at Henley Brook Primary School are required to read or be read to each night. The amount and type of reading students undertake is determined by their phase of learning and individual needs. The below table outlines the requirements of home reading for each year group from Pre-primary to Year 6.

Pre-primary	Home reading will begin in Term 2 and will be linked to each child's developing phonic knowledge. Each week, students will bring home one or more of the following to read: • List of words • Decodable book • UFLI reading passage Students are asked to read each item to a family member every day to help build reading fluency and confidence.
Year 1-2	Home reading will begin mid Term 1 and will be linked to each child's developing phonic knowledge. Each week, students will bring home a decodable book and a UFLI reading passage. Students are asked to read each item to a family member every day to help build reading fluency and confidence.
Year 3-6	Each week, students will visit the library with their classroom teacher. During this time, they can select 2 books to borrow for the week. One of these books will be a novel to be used for home reading. Students are asked to read their novel for a minimum of 20 minutes each day.

Rationale

Staff at Henley Brook Primary School strongly believe that positive family interactions, constructive family time and varied extra-curricular activities have a positive impact on the mindset of parents and students. These opportunities improve student well-being and support them to develop socially, emotionally and physically.

The results of research into the benefits of homework are varied and the link between homework and student achievement is far from clear. There is no conclusive evidence that homework increases student achievement. Some studies show homework has a positive effect, while other studies show no effect or even in some cases, a negative effect. Preparation of students for the time commitments of homework anticipated in years to come is not, in itself, a reasonable basis for setting homework.

Ways to Support Children's Learning at Home

Read to your Child

Parents/Carers reading aloud to children offers a range of opportunities to support learning:

- You bring the magic of books to your children. You become the storyteller!
- You show your children how important reading is by modelling. Children learn by watching you.
- Books are a great way to talk about characters and their problems.
- Reading to your children gives them a chance to hear a variety of new words.
- Books can help you pass on your values in an easy and comfortable way.
- By reading books to your children, you can increase their listening skills.
- By reading to your children, you help them stretch their imagination.
- By reading a range of stories to your children, you can help them to understand their emotions and perspectives of others.

Build Life Skills

At Henley Brook Primary School we encourage families to support their children in developing life skills, as well as engaging in physical, social and mindful activities. These activities may include:

- Doing a job at home. Children could tidy their room, help to set the table for dinner, play with or feed the family pet or brush their teeth without a reminder.
- Playing a game with a parent of sibling. This is a special time to develop communication, problem solving and teamwork skills.

- Engaging in a physical activity. This includes both formal sporting activities as well as activities with parents and siblings such as walking, riding a bicycle, bushwalking, fishing, walking the dog, going to the beach and a whole range of active pursuits both indoors and outdoors.
- Listening to music, painting, drawing, sewing, playing an instrument or dancing.
- Doing the food shopping together. This is a fantastic opportunity to spend time together and provides a real-life context to apply mathematical concepts and language learned at school. For example, you could count the number of items in your shopping trolley, find the cheapest item, calculate simple totals, point to the longest/shortest item or even weigh fruits and vegetables.
- Going to bed early. It is vital that children get plenty of sleep.

Build Independence

We encourage parents to teach their children how to be organised for school each day. Set up a before and after school routine to enable your child/ren to become and independent learner.

Teach your child how to pack their own school bag with the belongings they need for the following day. Teach them how to unpack their lunchbox and drink bottle when they get home.

Teach your child how to dress and undress themselves, tie their shoelaces and brush their teeth.

Children feel empowered when they can get themselves ready and are well prepared for school each day.