



Sackville Street Public School

QUALITY TEACHING
LEADS TO QUALITY LEARNING

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Sackville Street Public School Homework Policy

Introduction

The Sackville Street Public School Homework Policy was written in consultation with the school community, which included teachers, students, parents/caregivers and the school leadership team. Current research was also analysed and considered for the purpose of formulating this policy. It complies with the NSW DEC Homework Policy Guidelines.

The NSW DEC Homework Policy defines homework as "any task assigned by school teachers intended for students to carry out during non-school hours designed to meet specific learning goals." It also states that while the development of a Homework Policy is a requirement of every school, it is not compulsory for students to participate in the school's homework program.

Rationale

Homework bridges the gap between learning at school and learning at home. It reinforces concepts taught in class and helps to develop skills such as research and time management.

Homework helps to establish the habits of revision, concentration and self-discipline. It also allows the opportunity for parents and caregivers to see the progress of their child.

At Sackville Street Public School, we have a diverse community comprising of families with varying backgrounds, values and circumstances. As a school, we endeavour to cater for our community's homework expectations.

Through consultation with our school community the following beliefs about homework were established:

- Valuable learning experiences occur outside the school setting.
- Homework provides opportunities for students to reinforce and consolidate what they have learned in class.
- Homework can assist in establishing routines at home.
- Homework can provide the necessary preparation for increased workloads as students enter secondary school.
- Homework should not be made a compulsory part of schooling.

This policy aims to promote flexibility regarding the completion of homework, thereby accommodating different family circumstances.

PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

- Parents and caregivers will set a homework routine with their child that is accommodating of family schedules and commitments.
- Parents and caregivers will sign off on their child's homework to indicate that they are satisfied with the amount completed and note areas for further teacher assistance if necessary.
- Parents and caregivers will approach the teacher if issues arise regarding homework via phone call or interview request.
- Parents may provide assistance with homework. However, they are not to complete it for their child.

STUDENTS:

- Students will commit to the homework routine set in negotiation with their parents or caregivers.
- Students will complete homework tasks (including projects and assignments) to the best of their ability.
- Students will ask their teacher for assistance with homework when necessary.
- Students will be responsible for collecting and handing in their homework.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

MONITORING:

Monitoring of the Sackville Street Public School Homework Policy will be ongoing. Team leaders will be responsible for ensuring that staff members are familiar with this policy and that homework being set follows policy guidelines. Classroom teachers will engage in formal and informal discussions regarding homework being set.

EVALUATION:

The Sackville Street Public School Homework Policy will be evaluated in Term 3, 2014. Evaluation methods will include holding a parent forum and surveying the school community (parents, teachers and students).

REVIEW:

Upon analysis of forum comments and survey results, the Sackville Street Public School Homework Policy will be reviewed in Term 4, 2014.