



Homework Policy

1. RATIONALE

Homework for primary school children should be minimal, in order that a balance of play, rest and exercise can be achieved. In the early years homework should largely be informal and non-compulsory.

As children move towards upper primary years, they should progressively be exposed to more structured homework requirements, to facilitate a smooth transition to secondary through the development of good study habits and time management. Homework is seen as an opportunity to enhance student learning outcomes and foster positive school and home partnerships.

Policy statements

The following statements provide a uniform approach to homework at CVPS. They articulate a clear position to parents and staff about expectations.

KINDERGARTEN AND PRE-PRIMARY

- No formal homework is set, however 4 – 5 nights of reading per week is strongly recommended.
- Reading should be for 5 – 15 minutes and involve the child reading to an adult and adults reading to the child. Parent and child should discuss the book together.
- Children are encouraged to bring a reusable water bottle to ensure they drink appropriate amounts of water during the day, in particular during summer.

YEAR 1-2

- No formal homework is set, however 4 – 5 nights of reading per week is strongly recommended. Sight words.
- Reading should be for 10 – 20 minutes and involve the child reading to an adult, adults reading to the child, and the child reading independently.
- Discussions about the type of Math and concepts being covered in class.
- Voluntary discussions and searches for information that supports classroom learning and/or activities.

YEAR 3-4

- No formal homework is set, however 4 – 5 nights of reading per week is strongly recommended. Sight words.
- Reading should be for 15 – 25 minutes and involve the child reading to an adult, adults reading to the child, and the child reading independently. Parent and child should discuss the book together.
- Discussions about the type of Math and concepts being covered in class.
- Voluntary discussions and searches for information that supports classroom learning and/or activities.
- Voluntary practise of basic number facts.
- Finishing incomplete class work.

YEAR 5-6

- 15 – 25 minutes of independent reading 4 – 5 nights per week.
- Parents are still encouraged to read to and with their child and have discussions about the book.
- Monday – Thursdays students work towards an established homework/revision routine that takes in to consideration outside of school activities (e.g. sport, music etc.).
- Voluntary discussions and searches for information that supports classroom learning and/or activities.
- Finishing incomplete class work.
- Practise of basic number facts.
- Specific tasks to support classroom learning progress.
- Targeted strategies to reinforce new concepts being learnt in class.

OUTSIDE TUTORING, HOMEWORK CLASSES OR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Some parents may choose to engage the services of tutors or have their child involved in outside of school homework classes. CVPS teaching staff are not in a position to provide resources or advice for such activities.

Some students who have a particular learning needs due to a learning difficulty or delay, may be involved in outside of school tutoring. This could include working with organisations such as the Dyslexia Speld Foundation. In these instances, staff can provide advice to such an organisation, as part of the child's documented plan. This would typically be discussed during an organised 'Case Conference'. Such activities are always based on encouraging and supporting the child – not pushing them beyond their limits.

Please Note:

Teaching staff are not responsible for ensuring a child completes homework, and are not required to mark any homework or activities a child does at home that is not part of the classes specific learning program.

Alternatives to homework parents can use to support student learning:

- Board games, card games, dice games
- Cooking
- Outdoor games and activities
- Crosswords, puzzles, jigsaws
- Word games, charades, and other drama type activities
- Taking books out from the local community library