



**North  
Harrisdale**  
PRIMARY

# HOMEWORK POLICY

CURIOSITY \* COURAGE \* CHALLENGE

2021

# HOMWORK

## RATIONALE

Homework should be purposeful and valued by students and families. The purpose of homework is to reinforce and support learning in the classroom. It should be enjoyable and designed to get children thinking.

Education researcher Professor John Hattie, who ranked various influences on student learning and achievement, found that homework in primary schools has a negligible effect. It has minimal to no impact on a student's overall learning.

We value the time that families spend together after school going to sports practice, music or dancing etc. and so choose to keep homework expectations to a minimum.

## EXPECTATIONS

We expect homework to form part of a developmental learning program that is responsive to individual needs, clearly relevant, and supported by classroom practice. Our approach to homework is to encourage all students to engage in home reading for a minimum of 15 minutes every day. Children in Years 4 to 6 should be reading for at least 30 minutes every day.

Other homework may include:

- *work not completed in class,*
- *high frequency word practice,*
- *simple tasks that require information gathering for an upcoming lesson in class; and*
- *occasional research projects.*

Students at educational risk who are on an Individual Education Plan (IEP) may be given additional tasks to be completed at home with family support, as part of their IEP. This is to be negotiated with families.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

### Teachers:

- Expect every student to be reading every night and monitor their *Reading Journal* at least once a week
- Send students to the principal and deputy principal when reading milestones are reached
- Involve families when students are not completing their home reading
- Involve families when children are not regularly completing assigned tasks in class

### Students:

- Read every night for at least 15 minutes
- Complete any assigned tasks for homework, including unfinished work in class

### Families:

- Ensure children are reading every night
- Listen to young children practise blending sounds to read words, including high frequency words
- Keep teachers informed of any issues your children are facing with completing homework