Ashbury Public School
Homework Policy

It is a requirement that schools, in consultation with their communities, develop a school homework policy relevant to the needs of their students.

This policy provides information on the format and role of homework at Ashbury Public School.

This school policy should be read in conjunction with the DEC Homework Policy at: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/curriculum/schools/homework/PD20020003.shtml?query=Homework+policy

1. Purpose of homework

- Allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class
- Provides training for students in planning and organising time
- Develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources
- Establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline which will serve students for the future
- Strengthens home-school links
- Reaffirms the role of parents and caregivers as partners in education
- Provides parents and caregivers with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their children.

2. Homework philosophy

Homework should never be onerous or stressful for students. If your child is having difficulties with homework please have a discussion with their classroom teacher.

Homework may be set across all Key Learning Areas. Activities may include tasks such as reading, research, observation, data collection, designing and making, problem solving or creative thinking.

Self-directed play and unstructured times are important. All indoor and outdoor physical activities can assist children to develop a wide range of knowledge and skills including literacy, numeracy and problem solving. Language and number concepts can be introduced in many family activities including outings, preparation of food, interactive computer programs and conversations about what is happening at school.

The ‘Learning at Home Grid’ is used from Year 1 to 6, where students record all the types of activities that they are involved in outside of school, such as reading, maths, helping at home, cultural and physical activities.

In Kindergarten at Ashbury Public School, the focus of homework is home reading. Listening to your child read, giving praise, reading to your child and library borrowing are considered essential adjuncts to reading in the school environment.

Revised by the School Council in August 2014
3. Expectations

Teachers can help by:

- Explaining to students and their parents or caregivers the purpose and benefits of homework
- Ensuring students and parents or caregivers are aware of the school’s homework policy
- Providing homework activities related to classwork
- Setting a suitable amount of relevant homework that is appropriate for the ability of each student
- Ensuring the students are aware of what is expected of them and how their work will be assessed
- Giving students sufficient time to complete their homework, taking into account, as far as possible, competing home obligations and extra-curricular activities
- Marking homework promptly and appropriately, maintaining homework records and providing feedback to students and parents or caregivers
- Communicating any issues regarding homework to parents or caregivers and suggesting strategies that can assist with homework.

Students can help by:

- Being aware of the importance of homework and the school’s homework policy
- Seeking assistance from teachers and parents or caregivers when difficulties arise
- Showing their homework to their parents or caregiver
- Ensuring homework is of a high standard
- Organising their time to ensure that sufficient time is given to do quality homework within set deadlines.

Parents and caregivers can help by:

- Taking an interest in homework
- Ensuring that there is time set aside for homework
- Encouraging and supporting students in completing homework
- Providing, where possible, a dedicated place, without distractions, for homework
- Encouraging their children to read and take an interest in current events
- Assisting teachers to monitor homework by signing completed work if requested and being aware of the amount homework set
- Communicating with the class teacher any concerns about the nature of the homework and their children’s approach to homework
- Communicating with the class teacher any issues or extra-curricular activities that may affect homework.