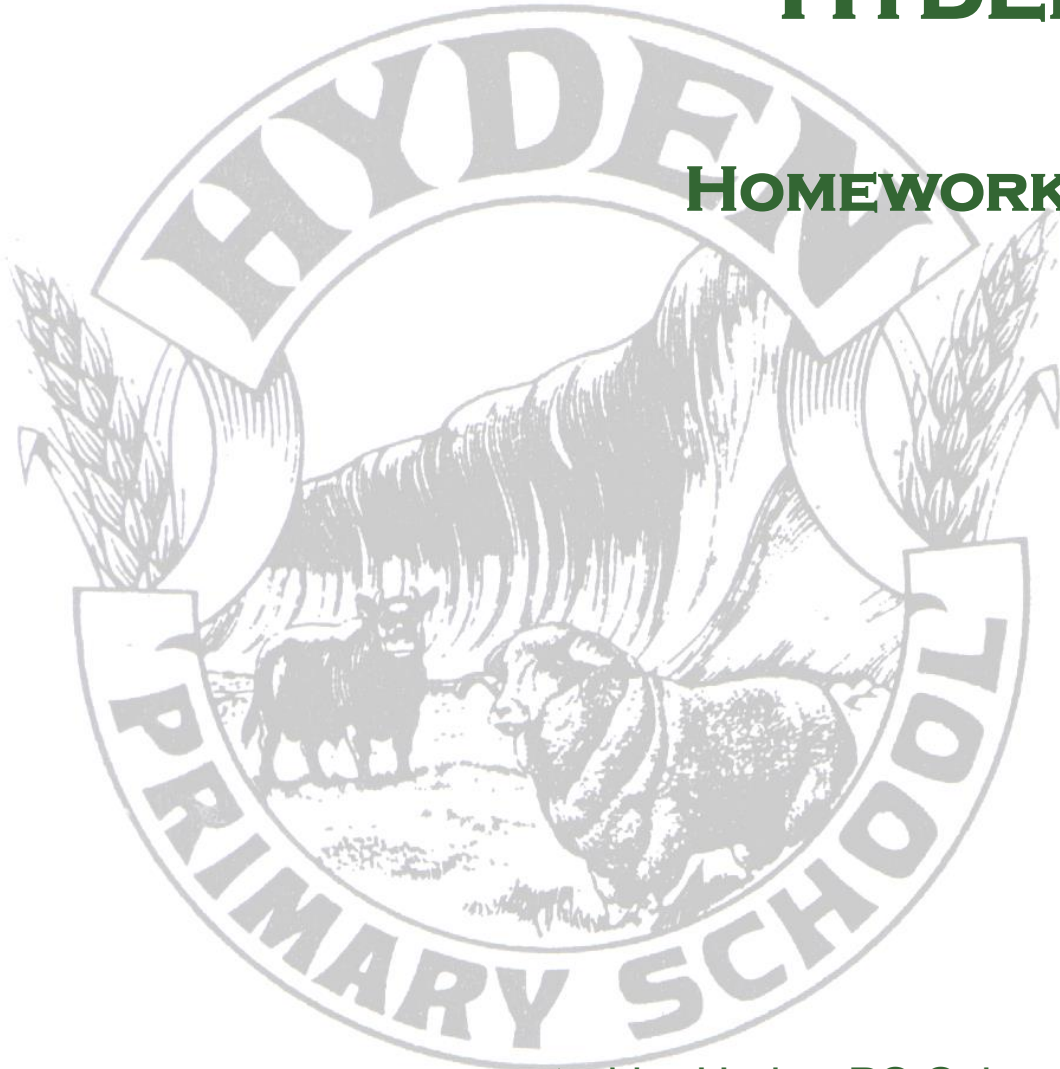


# HYDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

## HOMework POLICY



accepted by Hyden PS School Board September 2019

School Principal: A. Mutavdzic School Board Chairperson: S. Couper

# Hyden Primary School

## Homework Policy

Department of Education Homework Guidelines state that “every school is to have a documented approach to homework that takes into account the needs of the students and the phase of their development, and reflects the context of the school”.

### **The guidelines also state that homework should:**

- support the development of the student’s independence as a learner;
- further the partnership between school and home;
- avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student;
- be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational, cultural and employment pursuits relevant to the student’s age, development and educational aspirations;
- be balanced across learning areas so as to avoid stress and overload;
- be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through the upper primary years and sustained through the secondary years;
- be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning area requirements;
- only be used to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes;
- form part of a developmental learning program that is responsive to individual needs, clearly relevant, supported by classroom practice and, where appropriate, developed in collaboration with students; and
- be disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline.

## **Hyden Primary School Homework Guidelines**

Maximum time allocation for specific year groups is:

K/PP - no set time

*NB: Hyden Primary School does not set Homework for students in Kindergarten. In some cases, where developmentally appropriate, some students through negotiation with the parent and class teacher can voluntarily take home comprehension packs, fine motor tasks, numbers and letters, Tricky Words (sight words) and Inquiry investigations. In Pre-primary, the class teachers will slowly scaffold the children towards taking something home to bring back to school in preparation for Homework expectations in Year 1. This may include "Letters and Sounds" tasks and Home Reading.*

Children within Year 1-6 phase should be given appropriate opportunities for increased responsibility for managing and organising activities. Children should be able to reflect on their learning and practice their skills in order to consolidate their classroom experiences.

Yr 1/2 – up to 20 minutes (4 times per week)

Yr 3/4 – up to 30 minutes (4 times per week)

Yr 5/6 - up to 45 minutes (4 times per week)

**Homework tasks may be set by:**

- Class teachers
- Specialist teachers

If students are receiving additional homework from the specialist teachers, then homework will be negotiated between the specialist teacher, class teacher and parent.

### **Parent/Guardian Role in Homework:**

Parents and guardians can assist their children by:

- Allowing for a transition time after school and help your child find out what time best suits them to do their homework. Homework is best completed before dinner for young students.
- Having a dedicated 'homework' area and insist on Internet use only in areas where you can actively supervise your child.
- Encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation.
- Observing and acknowledging their success and ask them how their homework and class work is progressing.
- Encouraging them to set aside a regular daily session to read and complete homework. - Setting an example by reading regularly themselves.
- Contacting the class teacher to discuss any difficulties their child might be experiencing with homework tasks.
- Helping them to complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to relevant resources.
- Encouraging them to complete homework independently and providing support if / when required.
- Not doing your child's homework for them. Encourage him / her to do an easy piece of homework first or try questions such as: "What information would help you?" or "How did your teacher explain it?". Encourage your child to seek help

from their teacher the next day and inform the teacher in a discreet manner yourself if you perceive any difficulties with homework.

- Helping them to balance the time spent completing homework and home leisure and recreation activities.
- Let teachers deal with homework that is not done and ensure that your child knows that home and school are on the same side of the fence.
- Being realistic and avoiding putting too much pressure on your child.
- Put family first – on special days such as birthdays, advise your child's teacher if they are unable to complete their work due to family celebrations or other important family commitments.