



# THOMASTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

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Homework should be challenging, interesting and relevant to classroom activities. It should not be too difficult or unfamiliar but should consolidate skills learnt at school. Children need to succeed with homework; it should not be frustrating for them or their parents.

## ***PURPOSE:***

1. To reinforce and practice skills and attitudes to learning fostered at school.
2. To further develop organisational skills and to foster a positive attitude towards learning.
3. To develop a responsibility for self-learning.
4. To give parents the opportunity to encourage, express approval and in general relate positively to their children.

## ***GUIDELINES FOR TEACHERS:***

Teachers may use their discretion when setting homework tasks but they must be aware of the following guidelines:

1. All homework must be relevant to and complement classroom activities.
2. Homework should not introduce new, unfamiliar activities.
3. Be aware of individual differences with homework requirements and expectations.
4. **Maximum time recommendations:**  
Prep : 10 minutes reading which may be **to** the child, **by** the child or **with** the child. Optional activities are available from the class teacher.  
Year 1 – Year 2 : 20 minutes. Reading may be **to** the child, **by** the child or **with** the child.  
Grade 3-6: an **average** of 30 minutes a day (no homework on weekends and holidays).
5. Recognise that prompt appraisal or correction is vital in fostering positive attitudes to homework.
6. Children can be expected to:
  - Spend some time reading each night.
  - Continue or complete classroom activities.
  - Be responsible for materials required to do the day's work.

## ***GUIDELINES FOR CHILDREN:***

Children's responsibilities include-

1. To take home and return all materials for homework.
2. To realise that parents and families may assist but activities must be completed by them.

Grade 3 / 4 and 5/6 students who find it difficult to complete work at home may attend 'Homework Club' on designated afternoons from 3.30 till 4.30pm

***CHILDREN ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO-***

1. Take home newsletters.
2. Return notices promptly.
3. Return library books in library bags on library day.
4. Take home and return home reading books.
5. Plan for the following day's activities e.g. swimming gear; correct clothing for sport, Phys Ed. Etc.

***GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS:***

1. Demonstrate, encourage and where possible express approval and satisfaction.
2. Provide assistance but be aware of doing too much.
3. Provide an area where the child can work effectively, away from noise, distraction and the T.V.
4. Encourage children to establish a predictable routine for doing homework activities.
5. Recognise that children need to go to bed early so that they are able to concentrate and participate fully in all class activities.
6. Inform the teacher of circumstances that have prevented the child from doing homework.
7. Don't make up excuses for your child's lack of responsibility for his/her homework.
8. Don't let your child work beyond a reasonable time limit, especially if they become tired. Young children should not spend excessive time on homework.

***WHEN YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE SET ACTIVITIES TO COMPLETE, TRY THESE:***

- Athletics, Spellodrome, Reading Eggs.
- Family conversations or discussions.
- Shared bedtime stories.
- Family games, activities or hobbies.
- Play together outside or go for a walk.
- Watch important events on T.V. as a family and discuss them.
- Write shopping lists together, handle money.
- Read recipes for cooking, measure quantities etc.
- Help with household duties.
- Read newspapers, magazines, street directories etc.
- Write own lunch orders.
- Do drawings and other creative activities.
- Keep diaries.
- Listen to music.
- Visit interesting places e.g. Parks, museums, libraries, art galleries etc.
- Discover **NEW** things **TOGETHER**.

***ANY ACTIVITY THAT WILL EXTEND YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING, AROUSE THEIR INTEREST AND BROADEN THEIR EXPERIENCES.***

