

	Carlton Gardens Primary School HOME LEARNING POLICY	Authorisation May 2015 Review: 2018
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Purpose

School related experiences undertaken at home benefit the students by making connections and complimenting classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. Home learning provides opportunities for parents to collaborate in their child's education. Learning at home should be enjoyable, challenging and strengthen students' interest in learning. It should assist the student to develop a love of learning throughout their life. This policy ensures that the CGPS home learning expectations are in line with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development guidelines (<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/pages/homework.aspx>).

Aim

1. To provide opportunities for students to revise, consolidate, extend and apply their learning.
2. To encourage parents/carers to share learning experiences with their child, to help them develop a sense of wonder.
3. To assist in the development of organisational and time management skills.
4. To provide students with opportunities to develop a sense of responsibility towards their own learning.

Implementation

- Teachers will develop tasks that are
 - appropriate to the student's skill level and age,
 - purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum,
 - interesting, challenging and when appropriate open ended,
 - assessed by teachers with feedback and will offer support, and
 - balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities.
- Home learning may take various forms such as:
 - practise exercises – apply new knowledge or to review, rewrite and reinforce newly acquired skills,
 - preparatory tasks – access background information in preparation for future lessons,
 - extension activities – individual exploration and expansion,
 - tasks that may require the use of computers for students in Prep - Grade Two, and
 - tasks that will primarily be digitally based from Grade Three - Six.
- ***NB: parents to inform teachers if they do not have access to a computer or the Internet.**
- Class teachers will coordinate the home learning allocation however it must be within the following recommended times;
 - Prep – 15 minutes per day
 - Grade 1/2 - 20 minutes per day
 - Grade 3/4 - 30 minutes per day
 - Grade 5/6 - 45 minutes per day
- Tasks will not be set on weekends or during holidays.
- If students attend an extended family holiday, they are expected to continue reading daily and to keep a journal. Due to the large number of students who travel within our school, and the ever-changing curriculum, teachers will not provide extra tasks for students on extended holidays.
- Reading will be a daily component of home learning at all year levels and may include reading material provided by the school or interest material available at home.
- Teachers will ensure that students are aware and informed of requirements and methods related to set tasks.
- Teachers will provide feedback to the students on set tasks.
- Teachers will contact parents if concerned about a child's home learning.
- Parents will be advised of home learning expectations at the beginning of the school year and will be provided with a copy of the school's home learning policy.

- Parents will be encouraged to support their children with their home learning tasks and help them to balance their time with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities.
- Diaries provide a means of communication between parents and the school and will, be used by Grades 3 – 6; these will be provided as part of the school's book pack.
- Parents are encouraged to contact class teachers to discuss any concerns they may have regarding home learning.

The Role of the Teacher

- to explain home learning tasks and how to go about them,
- to facilitate engaged conversations with parents,
- to provide parents at the beginning of the year, with an overall outline of the home learning experiences that are considered appropriate , and
- teachers are to outline the coming focuses at the beginning of each term, including central idea, lines of inquiry, literacy and numeracy. This will be sent home to parents/guardians.

The Role of the Student

- to read at home,
- to engage in learning experiences and activities at home,
- to share ideas for home learning with their parents, and
- to clarify with their teachers if they are unsure of the home learning tasks.

The Role of the Parents/Guardians

- to listen to and discuss with their child their books, and
- to enquire about the learning that has taken place that day and discuss any follow up needed for Units of Inquiry.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.