



COOGEE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Homework Policy

The purpose and expectations of homework

The purpose of homework at Coogee Public School is to develop in students a sense that learning is a continual process which does not just occur at school. Completing homework sets up good study habits and allows a connection between home and school. Homework also develops good time management and independent work skills. Homework allows families to connect with what their children are learning at school.

The NSW Department of Education and Communities Policy and Homework guidelines state that homework is not compulsory. The school is therefore unable to make homework compulsory and will not enforce the non completion of homework. At Coogee PS we expect that homework will be completed by all our students. At a minimum, we strongly encourage all students to develop a daily reading habit. In the younger years this should include reading out aloud to an adult.

What homework contains?

Homework at Coogee reflects what students are learning at school as well as developing a connection to learning outside school. For this link to be clear all homework should have some connection to student learning at school. Some independent tasks may not be directly reinforcing a concept taught at school but may be asking students to extend their learning on key concepts that are being covered by the school. For example, students studying Asian cultures may be asked to find a recipe for an Asian dish.

Homework in Years 2-6 at Coogee Public School adopts a 'grid' approach providing a mix of academic reinforcement in English and Maths as well as more 'practical' activities. The grid recognizes the involvement of many of our students in outside school activities. (A sample is attached)

The structure of homework across the school follows the approach below.

K-2	3-6
<p>Kindergarten & Year 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Home reading✓ News✓ Mathletics✓ Literacy tasks/sound work <p>Year 2 :</p> <p>Homework grids incorporating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Home reading✓ News✓ Mathletics✓ English/Literacy tasks	<p>Homework grids incorporating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ English/Literacy tasks✓ Home reading✓ News or Oral presentations✓ Mathletics✓ Maths problems <p>Other tasks based upon topics covered in class, eg narratives, science, HSIE</p> <p>Longer term projects (max 2 per year)</p>

How much homework is set?

Homework at Coogee PS is set according to the following guidelines:

- Kindergarten 5-10mins, four nights per week (ie 20-40mins per week)
- Stage 1 10-15mins, four nights per week (ie. 40-60mins per week)
- Stage 2 15-20mins, four nights per week (ie 60-80mins per week)
- Stage 3 20-30mins, four nights per week (ie 80-120mins per week)

These guidelines are based on the recommendations from our community about expected times. The times also recognize that homework needs to reflect a balance between its benefits and the impact on family life. The 'more homework the better' is also not supported by the research.

When does homework get issued?

Homework grids for Years 2-6 will be set on a fortnightly basis, commencing on a Monday and being due the Friday of the following week. Homework grids will commence in Week 2 of each Term and finish in Week 9 (This allows all homework to be reviewed). Home reading and mathletics commences Week 1 and finishes Week 10.

Some tasks are still expected to be completed daily (e.g. home reading) and occasionally students will be asked to provide materials for a lesson in class, such as collecting newspaper clippings which are outside the general guide.

How much help should parents give?

It is expected that most students should be able to complete the majority of their homework independently. Homework set across the grade contains levels of difficulty. Teachers support students who may be experiencing difficulty in selecting tasks at their independent level.

Whilst homework will generally be set at a level that students can complete independently this should not discourage parents from taking an active role in supporting their child at home. Students have individual learning needs and will need varying levels of assistance. **Reading with your child is always encouraged.**

Parents who require some assistance in understanding some of the key concepts are encouraged to visit the SchoolAtoZ website.

Parents are encouraged to give students feedback and correct their errors. Indicating which elements of the homework your child struggled with is valuable feedback for teachers.



<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study>

What feedback do teachers give my child?

Homework feedback is provided by teachers for all set homework which includes marking and some level of individual feedback to students. Feedback takes various forms depending on the types of tasks set. All homework set by the school will have some form of feedback provided which will include individually marked as completed, marked together as a class and/or individual feedback. Feedback is most powerful when it is given directly to students and errors are corrected. Most commonly this form of feedback will be verbal.

Questions about homework should be directed to your child's class teacher.