

Homework – All Homework is Optional – READING EVERY NIGHT IS NOT

Cranbrook State School's Homework Policy has been developed to align to the K-12 Curriculum, assessment and reporting framework (K-12 Framework) which specifies that schools are required to develop a whole school approach to homework policy and communicate it with school community.

The Cranbrook State School Homework Policy has been developed in consultation with the school community which included students, staff and parents and is disseminated throughout the school via newsletters, websites, student diaries, and the school prospectus.

To achieve consistent and effective implementation occurs throughout the school — including a consistent approach to the amount of time students are to spend in completing homework (at particular year levels and in particular learning areas), standardised 5-week homework sheets will be produced and available to all parents and students. The amount of homework is balanced across all learning areas to allow sufficient time for family, recreation, and community and cultural activities and also allows parents and families to opt out of homework by making it non-compulsory. Those students who do complete homework will require a homework book as outlined in the Homework - School Overview below.

Year 3 to 6 – Laptops

Over the course of the year students in Year 3 to 6 will have an increased access to their learning at home on a daily basis through the access to a school laptop or their BYOD. An online platform such as QLearn will allow students to continue their learning before 8.50pm and after 3.00pm. As a result, the homework sheets in grades 3 to 6 **will gradually be phased out**.

At Cranbrook we believe that homework is effective in supporting learning if it is clearly related to class work and our homework is designed to engage students in lesson content directly from the Australian Curriculum that has been taught during the week in Key Learning Areas.

Students requiring differentiated Homework Sheets that will be designed to meet their individual learning needs (either at a lower or higher level) need to request these from the classroom teacher as the homework at Cranbrook State School is optional and these will not be supplied unless requested. The homework in the Australian Curriculum consolidates, revises and/or applies students' classroom learning and if these are differentiated in the classroom these should be differentiated for homework.

All homework completed by students WILL be marked and returned to students one week after the homework is submitted for marking.

This homework Policy was developed using the following information, evidence and research:

- Balli, S.J., Demo, D.H., and Wedman, J.F. (1998). Family involvement with children's homework: An intervention in the middle grades, *Family Relations*, 47(2), 149–157.
- Bowen, N.K., and Bowen, G.L. (1998). The mediating role of educational meaning in the relationship between home academic culture and academic performance, *Family Relations*, 47(1), 45–51.
- Cooper, H. (1999). Homework Research and Policy: A Review of the Literature, *Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement*, 2(2), 1–9. US:CAREI [On-line] <http://education.umn.edu/CAREI/Reports/Rpractice/Summer94/homework.htm>
- Cowan, R.S., and Hallam, S. (1999). What do we know about homework. *Institute of Education Viewpoint 9*, London: University of London.
- Department of Education, United States (2002). *Helping your Child with Homework: For Parents of Children in Elementary through Middle School*. US: Author.
- Dudley-Marling, C. (2003). How School Troubles Come Home: The Impact of Homework on Families of Struggling Learners, *Current Issues in Education* [On-line], 6(4). Arizona, US: College of Education, Arizona State University. Available: <http://cie.ed.asu.edu/volume6/number4/>
- Farrow, S., Tymms, P., and Henderson B. (1999). Homework and Attainment in Primary Schools, *British Educational Research Journal*, 25(3), 323–341.
- Levin, I., Levy-Shiff, R., Appelbaum-Peled, T., Katz, I., Komar, M., and Meiran, N. (1997). Antecedents and consequences of maternal involvement in children's homework: A longitudinal analysis, *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 18, 207–227.
- National Education Association. Homework: Time to Turn It In? NEA Today: Inside Scoop- www.nea.org/neatoday/9904/scoop
- Perkins, P. G. and Milgram, R. M. (1996). Parent involvement in homework: A double-edged sword, *International Journal of Adolescence and Youth*, 6, 195–203.
- Xu, J., and Corno, L. (1998). Case Studies of families doing third-grade homework, *Teachers College Record*, 100, 402–436.

KLA's (Key Learning Areas) include the Australian Curriculum of English, Maths and Science.

Grade	Task	Homework
Prep	Reading	Every Night – Complete the Cranbrook State School Reading Log (see below)
	KLA's	Homework Sheet
	Assignments	Nil
	Home Tasks	Teachers will request materials or activities for classroom learning to be done – This will be communicated directly to parents (email, SMS or note) as well as students.
	Online Learning	These are highlighted on the Homework Sheet as optional extras or alternatives.
	Incomplete classroom tasks.	Nil
Year 1	Reading	Every Night – Complete the Cranbrook State School Reading Log (see below)
	KLA's	Homework Sheet
	Assignments	Nil
	Home Tasks	Teachers will request materials or activities for classroom learning to be done – This will be communicated directly to parents (email, SMS or note) as well as students.
	Online Learning	These are highlighted on the Homework Sheet as optional extras or alternatives.
	Incomplete classroom tasks.	Nil
Year 2	Reading	Every Night – Complete the Cranbrook State School Reading Log (see below)
	KLA's	Homework Sheet
	Home Tasks	Teachers will request materials or activities for classroom learning to be done – This will be communicated directly to parents (email, SMS or note) as well as students.
	Online Learning	These are highlighted on the Homework Sheet as optional extras or alternatives.
	Incomplete classroom tasks.	Nil
Year 3	Reading	Every Night – Complete the Cranbrook State School Reading Log (see below)
	KLA's	Homework Sheet
	Assignments	Nil
	Home Tasks	Teachers will request materials or activities for classroom learning to be done – This will be communicated directly to parents (email, SMS or note) as well as students.
	Online Learning	These are highlighted on the Homework Sheet as optional extras or alternatives.
	Incomplete classroom tasks.	Nil
Year 4	Reading	Every Night – Complete the Cranbrook State School Reading Log (see below)
	KLA's	Continuation of learning at home on the laptop
	Assignments	Continuation of learning at home on the laptop
	Home Tasks	Teachers will request materials or activities for classroom learning to be done – This will be communicated directly to parents (email, SMS or note) as well as students.
	Online Learning	These are highlighted on the Homework Sheet as optional extras or alternatives.
	Incomplete classroom tasks.	Continuation of learning at home on the laptop
Year 5	Reading	Every Night – Complete the Cranbrook State School Reading Log (see below)
	KLA's	Continuation of learning at home on the laptop
	Assignments	Continuation of learning at home on the laptop
	Home Tasks	Teachers will request materials or activities for classroom learning to be done – This will be communicated directly to parents (email, SMS or note) as well as students.
	Online Learning	These are highlighted on the Homework Sheet as optional extras or alternatives.
	Incomplete classroom tasks.	Continuation of learning at home on the laptop
Year 6	Reading	Every Night – Complete the Cranbrook State School Reading Log (see below)
	KLA's	Continuation of learning at home on the laptop
	Assignments	Continuation of learning at home on the laptop
	Home Tasks	Teachers will request materials or activities for classroom learning to be done – This will be communicated directly to parents (email, SMS or note) as well as students.
	Online Learning	These are highlighted on the Homework Sheet as optional extras or alternatives.
	Incomplete classroom tasks.	Continuation of learning at home on the laptop

Cranbrook State School Home Reading - Our Philosophy is – “Every child, should read every night – no excuse!”

Every child at Cranbrook State School will be offered a home reading books/journal for them to record their reading sessions in throughout the year and is an integral part of our school reading program. Reading is the single most important skill the child will learn at school and while many children have developed reading skills, further development depends on using these skills regularly.

The journal will be your child's only record for home reading and should be brought to school daily. Students will be encouraged to borrow home readers from school as well as from the school library.

Home Reading Expectations

- Prep to Year 2 - children and parents reading levelled books (only changed weekly) together.
- Years 3 to 5 - parents are asked to supervise children reading regularly and are encouraged to share literature with their children. Students can read any form of literature that is of particular interest to them. Some examples are; library books, chapter books, comics, magazines, web pages etc. It doesn't have to be a reader from school.
- Years 6 – students will take individual responsibility for their own reading and significant amounts of reading could be assigned that is directly linked to the Australian Curriculum they are learning (School requested reading requirements will recorded in their Student Diary)

The following points may help your child make the most of Home Reading:

1. Always be positive - you can't make a child read BUT you can ensure you provide enough stimulating material at an appropriate level that your child will want to read.
2. Your own role model is very important. Do you read and discuss books in front of your children?
3. Make sure your child is not making 'heavy weather' of their reading.
4. Let children choose what they read. The aim is to enjoy reading, not what we think it is good for them. Never criticize their choice of book.
5. Share reading, take it in turns reading a page.
6. Be aware of your child's favourite author, sort of books or series e.g. 'Baby-sitter's Club'.
7. Make use of book clubs. There are lots of reasonably priced, quality books.
8. Visit your local library or bookshop together - get the whole family to borrow and read at once.
9. Reading books do not have to be restricted to English.

Home Reading Certificates - A certificate, which will be given out in class or on assembly.

The following certificates will be given out in class:

25 nights, 50 nights, 75 nights, 125 nights and 175 nights.

The following certificates will be given out on assembly:

100 nights, 150 nights and 200 nights.