Kotara High School Homework

Policy Statement

***The difference between Homework and Study.***

Homework is usually formally organised and given by the teacher to all the students in the class. Homework can be given for many reasons (outlined below). **Students are expected to complete homework in an allotted time.**

Study is slightly different. It is a program of revision designed by the student in conjunction with the teacher to prepare for examinations.

Both Homework and Study are essential to prepare students for the internal and external exams they will face at school.

# Belief Statements about Homework

We believe that homework should reinforce the learning in the classroom. Therefore it is important that homework should:-

* Be a time for positive action by students & therefore be presented as important;
* Provide parents with an indication of what is happening in the classroom (when possible);
* Be challenging and stimulating to all students on many different levels;
* Encourage the development of independent study habits;
* Vary according to the needs of the class.

***The following should be used as a guide only:***

**Years 7/8/9** Students should have regular exercises to practice skills. These are the building blocks for their future study. Combine the acquisition of knowledge with the building of skills

**Years 10/11/12** It is essential that all homework activities relate to preparation for the RoSA and the HSC. Students should be acquiring information and skills.

## The Teachers role is to:-

* Provide interesting and challenging homework appropriate to the class and the subject;
* Cultivate a belief in self directed home study;
* Consider the availability of relevant resources and materials required to complete the tasks and make sure that students are furnished with access to this information;
* Provide a balance of open ended, creative and practice activities;
* Give clear explicit instructions and feedback; review and mark all work within an acceptable period;
* Be consistent in their approach to homework;
* Teach the necessary research and other skills to enable students to complete homework tasks;
* Provide homework tasks that can be completed over a period of time – taking into account the different activities in which the children may be involved.

### The Parents role is to:-

* Provide an encouragement for the child and help wherever possible;
* Respect the child’s knowledge and skills;
* Communicate with the teacher and check that homework is being done.

### The Students role is to: -

* Accept the responsibility for the completion of the homework and complete tasks to the best of their ability;
* Ask for the help of the teachers and family if necessary;
* Ensure the work is handed in for marking and that comments made by the teacher are followed up when homework is returned.

### We believe the following are suitable formal activities:-

* Practice and consolidation;
* Written work, eg questions, essays;
* Reading which requires a response, eg book reviews, character analysis, essays;
* Reading - aloud and/or silent;
* Design and make activities or projects,
* Research work,
* Writing tasks, eg diary/journal writing, handwriting, text types.

### We believe that the following are suitable informal activities:-

* Reading and being read to for enjoyment;
* Observation and discussion;
* Using the home/school environment, eg measuring, plotting, mapping,
* Drawing;
* Reading the paper, watching the news,

### We believe that these activities are NOT suitable for homework if they:-

* Involve work not covered in class or appropriate to the subject or class;
* Involve equipment not readily available in the home or may be dangerous if used unsupervised;
* May cause conflict or confusion with parents if the requirement are not clearly spelt out;
* Requires any expense.