# RONDEBOSCH EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

**HOMEWORK POLICY**

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**The Homework Policy is designed to:**

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- Ensure parents have a clear understanding about expectations for themselves and the learners.
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work in partnership and enjoy learning experiences.

**Purpose & Philosophy**

Homework is an integral part of the learning process and includes opportunities for learners to reinforce, synthesize, extend classroom learning and assists in developing time management skills.

Homework should be meaningful and engaging and should support the curriculum, helping learners to develop responsibility and good work habits.

Homework is a natural extension of the school day and an important part of the learner's educational experience.

Homework should be designed to be completed independently.

The three homework types generally are:

- Practice: – This homework reinforces newly acquired skills taught in the class.
- Preparation: – This homework helps the learners prepare for upcoming lessons, activities or tests.
- Extension: – This homework provides challenging, often longer term opportunities for enrichment and extension that parallels class work.

**Time Allocations**

It is recommended that learners will spend the following times on average on homework activities:

| Grade | Time | Activity |
|---|---|---|
| Grade 1 | 30 minutes | Split into two sessions of 15 minutes each. Reading – Phonics, Numeracy – Counting, Playing with Numbers, etc.Life skills |
| Grade 2 | 30 – 45 minutes | Split into two sessions of 15 minutes each.Reading – Phonics, Numeracy – Counting, Playing with Numbers, etc.Life Skills |
| Grade 3 | 30 – 45 minutes | Literacy – Reading, Phonics, Spelling, Numeracy, Life Skills – Research |
| Grade 4 | 45 minutes | English, Afrikaans – Reading, Comprehension, Spelling, Mathematics, other learning areas as required.Research activities |
| Grade 5 | 60 minutes | Mathematics, English, Afrikaans – Reading, Comprehension, Spelling, other learning areas as required.Research activities |
| Grade 6 | 75 minutes | Mathematics, English, Afrikaans – Reading, Grammar, Comprehension, AfrikaansAll l earning areas as required.<br>Research activities |
| Grade 7 | 90 minutes | Mathematics – practice, drill exercises, English, Afrikaans – Reading, Comprehension, SpellingAll learning areas as required.<br>Research activities |

Homework will be concentrated on Monday to Thursday. The weekend should be left free or for the completion of larger projects and research.

Teachers:

Will not give homework as punishment.

Will provide a range of homework activities and tasks to consolidate and extend learning in class.

Will ensure that learners clearly understand the task and have a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their ability.

Will communicate with parents and keep them informed of their child's progress, projects and topics to be studied.

Will vary homework assignments: short term and long term, practice of new skills, written or oral reports, preparation for upcoming lessons, enrichment exercises, etc.

Will make sure that learners have access to any materials needed to complete an assignment.

Will give prompt feedback on checking homework, correcting errors and reviewing important concepts.

**Guidelines for learners and parents**

Learners:

Must write down all the day's homework in their homework diaries.

Must organise and take home all materials necessary to complete the homework tasks.

Must set aside a regular time to study each evening.

Must have a quiet well lit place to study.

Must complete all assignments on your own and to the best of your ability.

Must complete and hand in assignments on their due date.

Must talk to your teacher when you do not understand the work or any other circumstances that you may face.

Parents:

Should put in place a good routine for homework and study. This should not be interrupted by family plans, television, etc.

Should help your child organize themselves so that they can be effective in their study time.

Should be supportive when your child becomes discouraged or frustrated, particularly with difficult assignments.

Should be actively involved in the homework of younger children.

Should sign and date your child's homework when completed and of an acceptable standard.

Should provide educational opportunities that broaden your child's interests, such as visits to the museum, the zoo and places of historical significance.

**Feedback for learners, parents & teachers**

Feedback must be given as quickly as possible. Teachers are interested in knowing how the homework activities were performed. Was it too easy, too difficult, interesting, etc. The homework diary is the ideal communication from home to school and visa versa. As with all school activities, parents are invited to discuss any queries with their child's teacher.