Homework Policy

Homework teaches organisation, time management and research skills. It gives students the opportunity to build upon their class work and involve family members in their learning. To help find a balance between family life and helping students reach their full potential, the Qld Government has released the Homework in State Schools Policy. This policy sets out guidelines for homework, including the amount of time students should spend on homework each week.

Purpose:
- To establish routine for current and future study
- To inform parents of class work and progress of their child
- To reinforce class work

Guidelines:
Staff will support these purposes by:
- Encouraging students to complete set homework through positive support, i.e. praise, rewards, stickers, reward systems
- Understanding the learner, i.e. the background and family circumstances that may potentially impact on the learner's ability to complete homework
- Providing homework that is easily managed within the suggested timeframes listed below
- Checking homework regularly and providing timely and useful feedback

Homework in Prep Years 1, 2 and 3 could be up to but generally not more than 1 hour per week; in Years 4 and 5 could be up to but generally not more than 2-3 hours per week whilst homework in Years 6 and 7 could be up to but generally not more than 3-4 hours per week.

At Mango Hill State School homework may include:
- Daily reading to, with and by parents/caregivers or other family members
- E-Learning activities that reinforce classroom learning. This may involve some written work, spelling activities or maths revision.

Teachers can help students establish a routine of regular, independent study by setting homework on a regular basis, explicitly teaching strategies to develop organisational and time-management skills and providing opportunities to practise these strategies through homework, while clearly communicating the purpose, benefits and expectations or homework.

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:
- Being aware of the school's homework policy
- Discussing homework expectations with their parents or caregivers
- Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set timeframes
- Following up on comments made by teachers
- Seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- Organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities
- Completing homework to the established standard.
As most homework will be electronic based, children who do not have access to a home computer are encouraged to visit the Hub before or after school to complete on-line homework tasks.

Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

- Reading to them, talking with them and involving them in tasks at home including shopping, playing games and physical activity
- Helping them complete homework tasks by discussing key questions, or directing them to resources
- Encouraging them to take responsibility for their learning and organisation of time
- Encouraging them to read and to take an interest in and discuss current local, national and international events
- Helping them balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games, playing sport and engaging in other recreational activities
- Contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of homework and their children’s approach to the homework.

If you are experiencing difficulties in having your child complete homework, please speak to your child’s teacher.