



## AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

### HOMWORK POLICY

**Last Review Date:** March 2016

**Review Date:** March 2018

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#### **PURPOSE**

It is important for students to realise that learning is not confined within the school environment and homework is able to provide:

- establishment of self discipline and develop good study habits
- a link between home and school
- the opportunity for students to revise/ complete work at home

Every student is expected to do homework each night, whether it is written work, revision of the day's lessons, memorisation of Quran, wider reading, research, or private study. Students are expected to write their homework in their student planner and parents are asked to check and sign these regularly.

Parents are also urged to encourage regular habits of homework and study, and support their children in developing a sensible routine.

#### **QUALITY**

Research indicates that student learning may be enhanced if homework is:

- appropriate for each student's age and ability ..
- relevant to each student's needs
- purposeful and designed to meet specific learning goals
- varied and challenging, but achievable
- built on knowledge, skills and understanding developed in class
- clearly stated and requirements made explicit during class time
- supported by teacher strategies for students having difficulties with homework.
- Homework tasks should be assigned by teachers with a specific, explicit learning purpose. On completion, teachers should acknowledge student effort and provide feedback related to student learning.

#### **MANAGEABILITY**

The quantity of homework needs to be manageable so that teachers can ensure quality, and can provide feedback to students on completion.

Homework that is manageable for students will:

- be age appropriate

- consider students' outside of school hours commitments, such as sport, cultural activities, tuition, part-time employment and home responsibilities
- take into account students' access to resources and technology beyond school
- be clearly communicated to students
- provide some flexibility and options to allow for different student circumstances.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Communication and the provision of clear information between teachers, parents/caregivers and students is a requirement of an effective school Homework Policy. The school's Homework Policy is made available to the school community, particularly at the time of enrolment.

Parents/caregivers of students experiencing difficulties completing homework need to be confident that these concerns can be discussed with the teacher, and that guidance and assistance will be provided.

## **AGE SPECIFIC CONSIDERATION**

### **Primary school**

While there is little conclusive evidence of the learning benefits of homework in infants and primary schools, quality homework in these stages may help students to develop effective study habits and broaden their understandings and skills across the curriculum.

### **Homework for Kindergarten-Year 2**

In Kindergarten, Years 1 and 2 some formal homework may be set. For example, students might be asked to read and write, learn words for spelling and complete some mathematical activities.

### **Homework for Years 3-6**

Homework in Years 3-6 may be varied and students may be expected to work more independently. Students could be encouraged to read and practise mathematical concepts learnt at school. Other homework may also be set across areas of the curriculum.

### **Homework for Years 7-8**

In Years 7-8, homework may be set across the curriculum. Homework may include regular tasks, assignments that require investigation and preparation for examinations.

AIA supports students to develop time management skills, guide them to become more independent learners and ensure their workloads are manageable. This is particularly important for those Year 7 students who are transitioning to high school.

### **Homework for Years 9-10**

In Years 9-10, homework may be set on a regular basis across the curriculum. Homework might include practice that complements work learnt in class, assignments, as well as preparing for assessment tasks and studying for exams.

### **Homework for Years 11-12**

In Years 11-12, homework will be expected to be completed independently. Homework may be set in all subjects, and students may be required to prepare for assessment tasks and study for exams.

### **OTHER INFORMATION IF REQUIRED**

- During information nights and in year level booklets students and parents are explained the importance and expectations of homework for each year level
- Parents should be kept informed of their child's progress through reports, interviews or comments in the homework books and tasks.

### **GUIDELINES**

It is imperative to provide the right conditions for home study. Where possible students should have:

- A room to him/herself or at least an area away from distractions such as TV
- A desk or table
- Good lighting
- A comfortable chair (not too comfortable)

Teachers should set homework on a regular basis and which is relevant to the current educational program. Homework should enable students to complete unfinished class tasks and, assigned work/revision and/or study.

It is important that all students appreciate the need to submit their work on time and that work submitted is neat and presentable.

The following are guidelines for home study:

Years	Kinder -2	2 - 3 hours per week.
Years	3 - 5	4 –5 hours per week.
Years	6 - 7	1 to 1.5 hours everyday, at least 5 sessions per week
Years	8 - 9	1.5 to 2 hours everyday, at least 5 sessions per week
Years	10 - 11	2 to 3 hours everyday, at least 5 sessions per week
Year	12	3 to 4 hours everyday, at least 6 sessions per week

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

- Year level information should include homework expectations at the start of each year.
- Parents/Guardians are expected to check their children's' diaries daily
- Reading should be encouraged on a nightly basis, not necessarily confined to school based resources.

- Work set should be introduced and explained by the teacher and followed up with the student at the completion of the task.
- Homework should be set in conjunction with all teachers at the year level.
- Teachers at each year level should plan activities appropriate to students' abilities
- Time anticipated for completion of homework tasks should be minimal during the foundation years and gradually increase over the students' schooling. Teachers should ensure that homework expectations are explained clearly and discuss the completed work with the student.