

WHENUAKITE SCHOOL

HOME STUDY

Reasons for Homestudy

- To share the child's school programme with their family.
- To develop parent – child – teacher partnership.
- To practice skills gained in the class programme.
- To foster time management and organisational skills.
- To enable students to study areas of interest, or read, in depth and at their pace.
- To utilise the resources in the home (people and materials).
- To prepare the children for school.
- To specifically prepare Y7-8 pupils for Secondary School.

Considerations

- Children and families have other commitments besides school e.g. family activities, music, dance, drama, sports, clubs, hobbies etc. Children will need to organise their homework around these within the week ie. Time spent on homestudy each day may vary or time elsewhere may be used (before school, lunchtime etc)
- Children who are unwell or tired, or family circumstances may result in a break from homestudy.
- Children work and learn at different levels and have a variety of needs and learning styles.
- Children should become motivated to enjoy completing homestudy, to be self motivated, to receive satisfaction from their efforts and to be responsible for their own organisation.
- Children will need:
 - support from their families
 - a place to work
 - role models at home who also read, study, write etc.
 - help to avoid distractions eg TV, younger siblings
 - regular routines
 - preferably no morning TV
 - a book bag to put work into
 - adequate rest and a balanced diet
- If homework cannot be completed children and families should not lose sleep over the issue – a simple note to the teacher or phone call will solve the problem.
- If on-going problems result from Homestudy – parents – teacher will need to discuss solutions or alternative options.

Guidelines

- Homestudy will usually be set on the first day of the week and be due by the last day of the week. (this may be Monday to Monday or Wednesday to Wednesday etc)
- Home study is not set for weekends.
- Work not completed will not be required to be completed at a later date.
- Most books, materials, equipment – brought from school, to home, will be required to be returned to school the next day or on the completion of the homestudy.
- Remembering notes, money, lunch orders, togs, musical instruments, sports gear, library books, news, punctuality etc are routines essential to and part of homestudy.
- Arriving at school prepared for the day and being ready for school by 9am (bags unpacked, equipment ready, work up to date – is part of homestudy).

- All rooms have a homestudy book.
- Each classroom teacher will explain to families their particular Homestudy programme and routines, at the beginning of the year.

Y1-2

- Main emphasis is in establishing the life-long routines of parent involvement and interest in the child's learning at school.
- Daily reading.
- Daily discussions about, school, play, questions and answers.
- Prepared for their 'news-day'
- Reinforce basic skills / learning steps ie – alphabet, writing for fun, making things, colours, basic words, basic numerals, counting, lots of oral language, telling the time, days of the week, etc.
- Maximum time for formal homestudy 15 minutes (reading).
- Read daily to / with your child.

Y2-3

- **All of the above.**
- Some children will have daily spelling to learn (Chunk Check Cheer).
- Basic addition and subtraction numeracy facts need to be memorised.
- Y3 can begin learning times tables.
- Daily reading continues.
- Time – maximum time 15 minutes formal homestudy.

Y4-5

- All of the above.
- Daily reading for some children but many will be reading library books independently.
- Everyone should have 10-15 minutes (at least) reading quietly to themselves.
- News day – be prepared and ready.
- Daily spelling – (Chunk Check Cheer).
- Learning basic facts and times tables.
- Mixed activity sheets
- Maximum time 10-20 minutes.

Y5-6

- Children make more use of their homestudy book at this level.
- Daily spelling, on-going times tables learning, research, fact finding, interest sheets and special projects are some of the features of homestudy at this level.
- Children are learning to organise their time well as they are often involved in many interests and have more commitments outside school.
- Parent involvement / interest is of continued importance.
- Daily recreational reading 15-20 minutes at least.
- Maximum time spent on formal homestudy 10-20 minutes / day.

Y7-8

- Children should be reading recreationally daily. Some children will read for at least an hour each evening. (20 minute minimum recommended)
- A variety of work will be set and children will need to organise time and resources well. Work will be carried out in books, on refill, posters and sometimes 3.D.
- Daily spelling and basic math's facts programmes will continue throughout the year.
- **Maximum time per day 30-45 minutes.**