



## **WOODFORD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL** **PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY 2018**

### **Mission statement:**

Woodford International School is a community of learners that builds on each child's strengths, drawing from our diverse local context and a rich international curriculum, to develop globally ready learners equipped to shape their future and achieve their dreams.

The Primary School homework policy supports this mission, particularly focusing on empower globally ready learner to achieve their goals, to develop independence, responsibility and strong study skills that prepare them for continued learning in the upper levels and to demonstrate the attributes of the IB learner profile such as inquiry, knowledgeable, balanced, thinker and principled.

### **The purpose of homework in the primary school includes:**

- To practicing, refining and reviewing skills taught in class
- To apply problem solving with learned skills in a new context
- To collect data or research for a unit of inquiry
- To allow families to collaborate on project to be shared in the classroom
- Develop lifelong learning and natural inquiry
- To develop time management and organizational skills
- to provide feedback about student's learning progress

### **Homework Best Practice**

Homework should:

- inform parents and students of expectations surrounding homework
- be stimulating, but not too complex.
- have a clear goal, be well explained and clearly understood.
- be reviewed and marked immediately so that the student receives quick feedback.
- be differentiated to cater for individual needs.
- cover skills and conceptual understanding that students have already learnt in class.

### **Informing Parents**

Parents should be informed when:

- Teachers are modifying homework to meet the needs of the student
- A student needs extra support in a specific area
- A student consistently does not have his or her homework completed on time

### **Homework Time Guidelines**

Kindy	Occasional homework
Pre school	10-15min/ night
Prep	10-15 mins/ night
Yr 1	10-15mins/ night
Yr 2	10-30 mins/night
Yr 3	20-30mins/night
Yr 4	20-30 mins/night
Yr 5	20-30 mins/night
<u>Specialists</u> ESL, Music, IT, PSPE & Library	On occasion, on a as needed basis, homework will be set by single subjects as part of student's weekly homework.

Times are merely a guideline. Homework will only be set when there is a need. Homework is not busy work.

### **Home reading program**

Most students take part in a home reading program. Each class has a wide selection of books for students to read. Some students are able to select their own books and keep a record of the books they read. The main purpose is for students to have independently inquiry, gain knowledge throughout the reading or improve decoding skills.

### **Spelling**

A list of words to be learnt each week is often sent home at the beginning of the week. The list may contain words with a common phonic element, words most commonly misspelt, Unit of Inquiry words or extra words for students with advanced skills. Students are encouraged to use a variety of methods to study their words at home. Testing most commonly occurs at the end of the week.

### **Mathematics**

It is likely that students will engage in problem solving activities, as well as revision. Authentic experiential learning at home should be encouraged.

### **Units of Inquiry**

Students may be asked to engage in simple research for their Unit of Inquiry. Parents are encouraged not to give immediate answers to questions, instead help their child find out for themselves.

### **Specialist Subjects**

Homework will be set in these subjects as needed.