



SYDNEY JAPANESE
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL

シドニー日本人国際学校

Homework Policy

HOMEWORK POLICY

INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

RATIONALE

- The International Division teachers, school leadership, and community agree that homework forms an integral part of a child's educational development.
- Homework complements and reinforces classroom learning while developing sound study habits and time management skills.
- Homework needs to be, meaningful and relevant, catering to all intelligences and individual learning styles.
- Homework provides important opportunities for parents to share their child's education, strengthening communication between home and school.

HOMEWORK POLICY STATEMENT

Sydney Japanese International School (International Division) will provide structured, monitored, and age-appropriate homework that directly supports the planned teaching and learning program. Homework is assigned to consolidate classroom concepts, with the explicit understanding that student well-being and a balanced lifestyle outside of school hours remain paramount.

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, 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.
- The intended purpose of homework is to consolidate learning, not to disrupt family life. If homework routinely causes friction or significant stress at home, parents should reach out to the class teacher. In such

cases, homework levels will be modified or excused to ensure the student's well-being remains the priority.

SUGGESTED HOMEWORK ACTIVITIES

Kindergarten	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading
	Spelling	Spelling	Spelling	Spelling	Spelling	Spelling
Show and Tell	Show and Tell	Show and Tell	HSIE/Science topic research	HSIE/Science topic research	Debating + HSIE/Science topic research	Debating+ HSIE/Science topic research
Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths
Japanese	Japanese	Japanese	Japanese	Japanese	Japanese	Japanese

- Activities may differ each week.
- Some year levels will sometimes include additional activities linked to the curriculum
- Clear instructions will be given to students on type of homework, expectations, and when homework is to be completed by

AMOUNT OF TIME TO BE SPENT ON HOMEWORK

This varies from year to year. The following is a guide of the approximate time per night (Monday through Thursday) that the children may allocate for homework:

Kindergarten	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
15 to 20 minutes	20 to 30 minutes	20 to 30 minutes	30 to 45 minutes	30 to 45 minutes	45 to 60 minutes	up to 60 minutes

This time guide includes Japanese homework and reading time.

THE ROLE OF THE TEACHERS

- Plan homework tasks with explicit learning goals that reinforce current classroom instruction and cater to diverse learner needs.
- Communicate clearly with the students of homework expectations.
- Inform the children of when the homework is to be completed by.
- Organise times for checking the homework and monitoring student progress.
- Ensure that the work is checked regularly.
- Communicate individual class homework guidelines with the parents, outlining the class teacher's expectations and the role of the parent.

THE ROLE OF THE STUDENTS

- Take age-appropriate responsibility for organising, scheduling, and completing homework within the recommended time frames.
- Keep track of homework sheets, diaries, digital tasks, and return home readers or materials on time.
- Actively seek assistance from the classroom or Japanese Language teachers if a task is not understood or proves unachievable.

THE ROLE OF THE PARENTS AND CARERS

Parental involvement in monitoring homework assists in setting good patterns of study. It is a good opportunity for parents to observe and play a part in their child's educational journey.

- Provide a suitable study environment for your child to be able to concentrate.
- Assist in planning when homework activities should be completed after looking at other afterschool commitments.
- Support and supervise, encouraging independence. Assist and give guidance when necessary, resisting the urge to do the work for the child.

- Check that the homework has been completed and report any problems with application to the class teacher.
- There is no need to correct the homework, simply review what has been completed.
- Communicate proactively with the classroom teacher if the child encounters systemic difficulties or if extenuating circumstances prevent completion.

ACTION TAKEN WHEN HOMEWORK IS NOT COMPLETED

Homework is treated as a shared student-parent-teacher responsibility. Regular checking is designed to offer support and praise for effort rather than acting as a mechanism for punishment.

- If the child has another commitment, then the parent should write a note or email and the child should complete the work as soon as possible.
- If the child is absent, the work should/should not be completed (teacher's discretion) PLEASE NOTE: This will depend on the actual work involved.
- If a child does not complete his/her homework regularly, he/she may have to catch up during part of lunch recess or homeroom time. Parents will also be notified.
- A comment could be made by the class teacher on the homework sheet / diary / task for the parent to read so as to be made aware of the situation.
- If the homework does not improve, then the parent could be contacted and some arrangement agreed upon e.g. monitoring the work over a week.

Each year level is different. Each teacher has different expectations. With parental support, homework should become a meaningful part of the child's learning and set good patterns of concentration and application for the years of study ahead.