

# Gin Gin State School Homework Policy



## Rationale

The purpose of homework at Gin Gin State School is to:

- support the school program
- respond to each child's specific needs
- partner with parents to involve them in their children's learning and build the home-school partnership.

At Gin Gin State School we believe that homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, pattern behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning.

Homework will be presented at each year level in the form of Homework Grids based on the work of educational expert Dr Ian Lillico.

### *Dr Ian Lillico's Home Learning Philosophy*

*"There is no doubt that children need to practice concepts learnt at school, within time constraints, but we need to broaden the definition of Home Learning. Any work that children do at home needs to be counted and parents and teachers should work together to ensure that children do some work at home, but not a lot of sedentary work. The Homework Grid is a solution to this old question of getting kids to do something at home and not opt out of family life. It will enable parents to get children to do their share of work in the home including housework, shopping, physical activity such as sport training and family outings such as walking, fishing and exploring the world – activities which enhance family life. It also covers areas such as reading, being read to, playing a game with parents, researching on the computer, music practice and many others."*

## Guidelines

Homework at Gin Gin State School:

- will be done on a weekly basis from Friday to Friday
- will be consistent across each year level
- reflects a time allocation suitable to students' age and year level – Prep to Year 2 up to 20 minutes per night, Years 3-6 up to 30 minutes per night
- recognises and accepts students' own initiatives and individual differences
- provides opportunities for students to apply skills and knowledge developed through the curriculum
- provides opportunities for parental involvement/feedback with their children and for students to share their knowledge
- will be positively encouraged and reinforced

Although homework is a student's responsibility, we encourage parent/child interaction and any support that can be provided to the student.

<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Student</b>	<b>Parents/Adults</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan the grid to suit the tasks of the units they are teaching that term in collaboration with year level colleagues.</li> <li>• Check the completed grid each week.</li> <li>• Reinforce students' planning for homework to support development of good time-management skills.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the grid each week.</li> <li>• Plan the completion of homework around other home activities.</li> <li>• Record the specific work completed.</li> <li>• Give some feedback to the class on some of the grid cells.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use particular activities to interact with their children.</li> <li>• Support children to plan homework around home activities to develop good time-management skills.</li> <li>• Sign each grid cell to verify that the work has been done.</li> </ul>
<p><b>**At times, parents/teachers may negotiate alternate items to meet individual student learning needs</b></p>		

Where personal or educational circumstances affect a student's ability to complete homework, we encourage families to make their child's class teacher aware of difficulties in completing homework within the timeframe.

**To view the background information and examples please refer to the school website**