



PEAK SCHOOL HOME LEARNING ESSENTIAL AGREEMENT

PHILOSOPHY

The belief at Peak School is that home learning is an integral link between home and school, encouraging students to become life-long learners. Teachers design authentic, meaningful activities using a balanced, holistic approach which encourages family interaction, creativity, life skills and academic learning in line with our PYP philosophy. Home learning will correlate with school learning and real life experiences.

GUIDELINES (for teachers)

- Reading will be a compulsory daily activity not necessarily confined to school based resources
- Parents will be given clear, consistent guidelines and expected time allocation
- Teachers will have a consistent approach both in the distribution, content and timing within Years levels using grids with a minimum of 6 “choice” boxes
- Basic skills in Literacy and Mathematics will be practised regularly
- Teachers will acknowledge and celebrate completion of home learning tasks (homework “choices” to be celebrated, acknowledged and/or displayed but not everything will be formally marked by the teacher)
- Compulsory tasks and expectations will be clearly identified and only previously taught understandings will be included
- Teachers will introduce and explain activities
- Activities will cater for different learning styles (balanced, varied and enjoyable) with opportunities for but not restricted to Art, Music, PE, ICT and Chinese
- Tasks will be open-ended to cater for all abilities
- All home learning grids will be available on Planet Peak
- Learning activities may be recorded and reported in a variety of ways
- There will be no home learning activities given during holidays

IMPLEMENTATION

Approximate guidelines for Year levels:

Year level	Minutes per day (4 times per week)
5 and 6	30 - 35 plus reading
3 and 4	20 - 25 plus reading
1 and 2	15 (Year 1 reading only)

Home learning will incorporate:

Reading – all year groups

Spelling Year 2 – 6 (Year 2 – Term 2 onwards)

Maths Year 2 – 6 (Year 2 Mathematics) – Mathematics mental computations and games should also be part of regular routines

Home learning “grids” will be developed collaboratively by teachers from Year 3 – 6 to include children being active and development of life-skills:

- 6 – 12 boxes on a grid with Language and Mathematics compulsory. Children choose any 2 activities /tasks from grid as instructed by teacher over a set period.



Home learning distribution:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 1,2,3 Weekly – Tuesday given out, returned Monday
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 4/5/6 – Fortnightly – Tuesday given out, returned the second Monday

PARENT'S ROLE:

Parents are asked to:

- provide a quiet area for children to complete their home tasks
- be involved in the reading at home program by listening to, reading with and reading to the children (in equal amounts). Remember the teaching of reading is done at school: reading at home needs to be an enjoyable experience
- check work recorded on Planet Peak
- write a note or contact the teacher if there are any perceived problems
- ensure that the children are thorough and careful in completing home tasks
- discuss the task and guide the children but avoid the temptation of doing it for them
- leave the activity and make note of this in the child's diary if there is an issue, which cannot be resolved using the above measures so that the teacher can address it the next day

Remember: home learning should be an enjoyable experience for the child.








STUDENT'S ROLE:

Students will:

- ensure they have access to grids either through their teacher or Planet Peak
- make sure they understand the tasks and not be afraid to ask questions if necessary
- set aside a regular time and place for completing tasks
- work on home learning independently and only ask for help if needed
- produce work to the best of their ability
- be proud of the work done
- make sure home learning is completed according to instructions and on time
- share home learning with parents and ask for feedback
- ask the teacher for more time before the due date if needed
- expect and embrace feedback
- choose a variety of activities/tasks from the home learning grid
- ENJOY YOUR HOME LEARNING



Peak School
Home Learning Grid
Sample Grid ONLY - Year 3-6

<p style="text-align: center;">Spelling As set by the classroom teacher</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Reading Reading to and listening to</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mathematics As set by the classroom teacher</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>
<p><i>The above activities are compulsory and should be completed regularly</i></p>		
<p><i>Choice Section</i></p>		
<p>Specialist Reflection Write down one thing you think you are really good at for each of the specialist areas (Music, PE and Mandarin) and one thing you would like to be better at (target).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p>Cooking Organise and prepare a healthy meal or snack. Write down ingredients used and method of preparation and take a photo</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p>Physical Activity e.g. walk, run, climb, explore or play a physical game or sport (after school sports practice counts)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>
<p>UOI Reflection Record your thoughts about the Central Idea for your current UOI. What is your current understanding? What questions do you have and what do you think you may have to do to demonstrate your understanding of this central idea?</p>	<p>Shopping Look at a shopping receipt and organise the items into groups and then calculate how much was spent on each area. E.g. \$25.60 on vegetables and \$27.90 on fruit</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p>Teach your Parents Teach your parents something you were taught at school. It might be how to solve a maths problem, a spelling rule or pattern, something relating to your Unit of Inquiry or something relating to PE, Chinese or Music.</p>

Children to choose two activities/tasks from the above “choice” section. An asterisk (*) will indicate that an activity/task is compulsory and must be completed by all children. This will happen when a task has been set that relates to the UOI and needs to be completed by all.