

PEAK SCHOOL

Home Learning – Positive, Minus, Interesting

Arguments For	Arguments Against	Interesting Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework teaches responsibility and instils discipline • If routines are established early it means the child is more likely to cope with the homework challenges of high school • The role of school is to extend learning beyond the classroom • Good Schools have lots of homework. There is a belief that a school that gives lots of homework must be a good school • Learning facts and practicing skills is just as beneficial as experiencing play or real life situations • Homework develops independent learners • Homework is great for checking understanding, practicing a skill or reflecting • It shows parents what the children are working on at school • Homework does work when activities are given that are naturally suited for home learning such as interviews, explaining rules and playing math/reading games with adults, shopping, demonstrating a Learner Profile • Homework works when children get to spend quality time with adults like cooking, playing board games, reading out aloud and being read to • Homework works if students are given choice where students organise their time to ensure they complete it all over a set timeframe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework causes stress for the child and the parent • Homework can cause family conflict • Loss of leisure time. There is a concern that the children are losing their childhood • Overall health concerns as lack of exercise and the long hours of work for young children • Children are losing their love of learning – this effects the children’s attitudes towards learning as the child grows and goes through school • Schools do not have the right to dictate how children and their family spend their afternoon or evenings • There is no relationship between completing lots of homework and excelling at school • Research shows that homework at primary school doesn’t work and has more of a negative impact • Children are at school approximately 36 hours a week. Keeping in mind that most adults only have to work a 40-hour week why are we asking children to do a 36-hour week plus homework plus activities? • Most students have at least one activity after school most nights not to mention the weekend. When are they supposed to find the time to complete work to a high standard and when are they supposed to have time to enjoy their childhood or rest? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The homework debate has tended to repeat itself throughout history • Research shows that there is no benefit of homework for primary aged children. However there is a benefit for older students. • Parents and teachers around the world are starting to question excessive homework. It is not an anti-homework movement but more of an anti-excessive homework movement • At each year level research shows there is an optimum amount of homework. Years 1 and 2: up to 12 minutes per day. Years 3 and 4: up to 18 minutes per day. Years 5 and 6: up to 30 minutes per day • A popular researcher on boys and learning, Dr Ian Lilico promotes a home learning grid as the best approach to homework. • Most schools now refer to homework as home learning • There appear to be three groups when it comes to homework: those who are passionate about it, those who don’t see any point to it and those who simply go along with whatever system operates at a particular time.

The above information has been gathered from a number of books, literature and websites from around the world including the UK, Canada, US, Australia and NZ. The above information is a collection or sample of views and have been collated to highlight the positive, negative and interesting aspects of Home Learning as debated around the world.