Barnier Public School

Student Handbook

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Welcome to Barnier Public School. We trust your children enjoy and value the time they spend with us.

Our Motto "Challenging the Future" is a reflection of our belief that schools should prepare each child to meet the challenging world of work and leisure by developing all students to their full potential.

To best do this we believe:

Barnier Public School's Community will learn and grow together.

Our mission statement:

“To develop life-long learners who are outstanding citizens.”

Our mission is supported by statements that outline our vision, guiding ideas and values.

Our vision statement represents the knowledge, skills and attitudes we would like our students to have developed when they walk out the door at the end of Year Six. These are the exit outcomes, which sit on top of syllabus outcomes. They are what we have determined to be life skills and vital for a successful and fruitful life as 21st Century learners.

Guiding ideas are our belief system. They are what we believe about quality teaching and learning and what contemporary educational research tells us about how children learn best. They shape our classrooms and determine the approach teachers take to lessons.

Our values illustrate the preferred day-to-day behaviour of all members of our community and describe the nature of relationships between constituents that we seek to develop.
SCHOOL DETAILS

SCHOOL ADDRESS  Barnier Drive, Quakers Hill  2763

TELEPHONE  9837 1600

FAX  9837 1858

E-MAIL  barnier-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

WEBSITE  www.barnier-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

FACEBOOK  www.facebook.com/BarnierPublicSchool

TWITTER  @BarnierPS

Please use the telephone in case of emergency only. All matters such as reason for absence, change in routine etc can be put in writing and sent to the class teacher or via email.

SCHOOL HOURS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers on duty</td>
<td>8.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Begins</td>
<td>8.45 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recess</td>
<td>10.45 am - 11.05 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch in classrooms</td>
<td>12.55pm - 1.05 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch in playground</td>
<td>1.05pm - 1.45 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School finishes</td>
<td>2.45 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ORGANISATION

Class structures can only be finalised when enrolments are known at the commencement of the school year.

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Principal  Mr Rod Gibbs
Deputy Principal  Miss Sharon Moon (Years 3-6)
Deputy Principal  Mr Craig Warner (K – 2)
Assistant Principal  Mrs Kelly Housbey (Kindergarten)
Assistant Principal  Miss Rebecca Elgood (Stage 1)
Assistant Principal  Miss Dannielle Chew (Stage 2)
Assistant Principal  Mrs Gail Oakman (Stage 3)
TERM DATES 2014

Term 1  29 January - 11 April (Years 1-6)
        30 January - 11 April (Kindergarten)

Term 2  29 April - 27 June

Term 3  15 July - 19 September

Term 4  7 October - 17 December

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2014 – student free

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Tuesday 28 January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Monday 28 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday 14 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Thursday 18 December, Friday 19 December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASSEMBLY

Assemblies are held at the following times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assembly</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Where</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
<td>Mondays in Weeks 5 and 10 of each term</td>
<td>1.55pm</td>
<td>under the COLA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Stage 1 Assembly</td>
<td>Thursdays in even weeks of each term starting 20 Feb 2014</td>
<td>1.55pm</td>
<td>School hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 1 Assembly</td>
<td>Wednesdays in even weeks of each term starting 19 Feb 2014</td>
<td>1.55pm</td>
<td>School hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2 Assembly</td>
<td>Wednesdays in odd weeks of each term starting 26 Feb 2014</td>
<td>1.55pm</td>
<td>School hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 3 Assembly</td>
<td>Fridays in even weeks each term starting 21 Feb 2014</td>
<td>1.55pm</td>
<td>School hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our students run all assemblies. Classes are rostered on to present class items or classwork and run our stage assemblies. Our student leadership team run our whole school assemblies. Children sing the National Anthem and school song, receive achievement awards and hear about upcoming events. Parents are invited to attend all assemblies.
SCHOOL UNIFORMS

All items of clothing must be clearly labelled with your child’s name. Hours of operation for the Uniform Shop are as follows:

Monday  2.00-3.00pm  Thursday  8.15am - 9.15am

Summer: Terms 1 and 4

Boys
Short Sleeve Sky and Ink Polo
Ink Shorts
White Socks
Black Shoes

Girls
Summer Dress
Ink Skort
Short Sleeve Sky and Ink Polo
White Socks
Black Shoes

Winter: Terms 2 and 3

Boys
Long Sleeve Sky and Ink Polo
Fleecy Ink Zip Jacket
Fleecy V Neck Ink Jumper
Fleecy Ink Pants
Boys Ink Pants
Ink Socks

Girls
Winter Tunic
Sky Peter Pan Blouse
Ink Bootleg Pant
Long Sleeve Sky and Ink Polo
Fleecy Ink Zip Jacket
Fleecy V Neck Ink Jumper
Fleecy Ink Pants

Sport:
Sport Shorts
Sport Pants
Sport Jacket

All Year :
- Children must wear an Ink Barnier bucket hat.
- No child is allowed to play in an open area without a hat as Barnier is committed to following the Sun Smart Policy.
- School hats are available from the Uniform shop and administration office.
- The children do not require a special sports uniform. Their school uniform was chosen as an ‘all-purpose uniform.’

MUFTI DAYS

Fundraising days are sometimes scheduled throughout the year. On these days children are permitted to wear casual clothes instead of school uniform. You will be informed through the newsletter, notes and website calendar if the
occasion is MUFTI. Students are encouraged to bring a gold coin donation for the purpose of fundraising on these days.

**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION**

There are many demands on schools to provide an increasing range of specialist programs and more practical equipment across the range of curriculum areas. This includes equipment for investigation and problem solving.

While the students at Barnier Public School are in a unique position that allows them access to the most modern books and equipment we all realise that we would like to extend the range available.

To assist us with the ongoing purchase of this equipment a contribution is requested each year.

**SCHEDULE**

- Voluntary School Contribution $40.00
- General School Classroom Resources $30.00
- Total Cost
  - 1 Child $70.00
  - 2 Children $130.00
  - 3+ Children $155.00

- Books and equipment – The school provides children with all the exercise books necessary for daily lessons. Some everyday resources such as art paper, paint, and scissors are also provided for classroom use. Parents are requested to supply a range of resources that children require to assist in daily lessons. A note listing the equipment for parents to purchase, is sent home at the end of the previous year and beginning of the new school year.

The contribution and subject charges are important to widen the breadth of resources available for use by our students.

The payment of the School Contribution is voluntary and no embarrassment or discrimination will occur as a result of non-payment of the contribution.

The level of contribution is determined with community agreement through our Finance Committee.

Our school would welcome your contribution as this will significantly enhance the resources available to your child and to all students.
**CANTEEN**

- The canteen is open at recess and lunch every day.
- The menu and price list is available on the website and special deals are advertised in the newsletter.
- **Lunch orders:**
  - Choose lunch items from the canteen price list (found on the website)
  - Write child’s name, class and order on a brown paper bag
  - Enclose the correct money and seal securely
  - Children place their lunch order at the canteen before school
  - Lunches are collected from the canteen by class monitors and delivered to students in the classroom at the beginning of lunch eating time
  - Any change will be returned in the lunch bag
- **Recess orders** are also available. Please follow the same procedure as above but mark the bag clearly with “RECESS ORDER”.
- **EFTPOS** is available at the canteen for your convenience
- **Excursion Packs** are available from the canteen on days where students are attending excursions off site. These must be ordered in advance and can be delivered to the student before they depart.
- **Meal Deals** are available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please check the price list for inclusions and prices.

**FOOD AT SCHOOL**

We strongly encourage parents to provide healthy food for their children at school. Children are not to bring lollies or chewing gum to school and please don’t send drinks in glass bottles. A healthy lunch helps children work and play enthusiastically and actively. We also ask that you avoid sending nut products to school with your child as we have children enrolled with severe nut allergies.

**Crunch & Sip**

As part of our health program, students are encouraged to bring in fruit, vegetables & water for a break in the morning. Research shows that concentration levels are increased when children are fuelled by fresh snacks at regular intervals. All classes K-6 have a short, daily, in-class break for Crunch and Sip. In addition to providing recess and lunch, please pack some “nude food” (unprocessed, natural fresh fruit and vegetables) for your child each day. For suggestions, please go to [www.crunchandsip.com.au](http://www.crunchandsip.com.au)
MORNING ARRIVAL
Our children line up at 8.45am each morning outside the classroom or in the COLA. If you bring your child to school, we ask you to please stand away from the class to avoid distractions to the children. Students who arrive at school prior to the bell should wait in the COLA where there is a teacher on duty. Children are not to be at school before 8.15am. There is no supervision for your child prior to 8:15am.

AFTERNOON DISMISSAL
Children are dismissed at 2.45pm each day.

- It is essential that children are picked up promptly from school. This avoids distress and allows teachers to get on with their many important tasks.

- There are specified waiting areas for parents which allow classes to conclude their day without interruption from waiting parents. Please avoid distracting the children by waving through the classroom window prior to dismissal.

TOYS AND JEWELLERY
All valuables or belongings brought to school are your child's responsibility. To avoid distress, please don't let them bring precious or expensive belongings to play with in the playground as they may be damaged or lost. If something special is brought to show classmates, it should be left in the classroom all day.

No jewellery should be worn to school. If children have pierced ears they should wear studs only to school.
**LATE ARRIVALS / EARLY DEPARTURES**

If your child arrives *after the 8.45am bell*, please accompany them to the office to collect a LATE PASS. If they arrive in class without a LATE PASS they will then need to go to the office to collect one. This will be effective from Monday 24 February 2014.

Your child’s partial absences are recorded electronically and will be communicated to you on your child’s report.

Please provide the class teacher with a written reason for the partial absence within seven days, as all rolls are legal documents and must be recorded accurately. Partial absence is indicated in the roll by ‘S’ (sick), ‘L’ (approved leave) or ‘A’ (unapproved leave). ‘Running late’ or ‘slept in’ are not approved reasons for absence and require ‘A’ to be indicated on the roll. Please ensure that your child arrives on time to school.

If leaving early, you must report to the office for written authority before collecting your child from the classroom. You may be asked for photo identification. This is for the safety of the students. You will then be issued with an early departure slip, which you must present to the class teacher before they release your child for early departure. Please also provide the class teacher with a valid, written explanation for the early departure within seven days of the partial absence.

No child can be collected during lunch time. Please organise for your child to meet you in the office if this time is required. No child is allowed to leave the school grounds during the day without written or “in person” parental consent. Advance notification is appreciated to ensure student safety.

**VISITORS**

All visitors to the school **must** report to the office on arrival. Any person visiting the school grounds at any time other than drop and pick up times are considered visitors to the school. All visitors must provide photographic identification and will be issued with a school visitor badge for identification by staff and students around the school. When leaving the school grounds visitors must sign out at the office.

**ABSENCES**

When your child is absent from school, please send a note of absence explanation to the class teacher on his/her first day back following the absence.
If you know that your child will be absent for more than three days, please let us know as soon as possible.

If an explanation note is not received in seven days the absence will be recorded as “unexplained”.

**Long or extended absences** for the purpose of family holidays etc should be approved by the Principal. Please contact the office to obtain an “Exemption From Attendance Form”. Where possible, this should be done well in advance of the proposed absence, allowing one week for approval to be returned.

Continued absence or partial absence is referred to the Department of Education and Communities’ (DEC) Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO). The HSLO is responsible for visiting schools and checking attendance registers. They contact parents to provide programs to assist families and monitor to ensure student attendance is consistent.

**Punctuality**

Children should be at school by 8.45am. Children are supervised in the playground after 8:15am. It is vitally important to get to school on time each day. Children who come to school late miss out on the introductory session and often find it more difficult to settle into class activities and concentrate on learning. Research shows that continued late arrival to school during primary school is linked to truancy in high school.

**Health**

The best place for a sick child is at home. Please do not send your child to school if he/she is unwell.

If your child becomes sick or is injured at school, you will be contacted to come and collect him/her. All staff are trained in emergency care, anaphylaxis and CPR. The school has a sick bay and there are staff at the school who are First Aid trained. Minor injuries are treated by staff and may not require a phone call home. All children who attend the sick bay due to a head injury will receive a phone call home.

**Infectious / Common Childhood Diseases**

If your child contracts an infectious disease and may have been in contact with other students while contagious, please contact the school immediately. **We have some students with life threatening auto-immune deficiencies and their parents need to be notified ASAP in order to receive treatment.**
A child who isn't healthy cannot concentrate on their work at school. If your child is unwell, please keep him/her home until they are completely well enough to return to school.

**Some Common Childhood Diseases Which Will Keep Him /Her at Home:**

**HEPATITIS:** Re-admitted to school with a medical certificate.

**CHICKEN POX:** Excluded for seven days after spots appear. Medical certificate required.

**CONJUNCTIVITIS:** Excluded. Re-admitted to school with a medical certificate.

**GERMAN MEASLES:** Excluded for seven days from appearance of rash.

**IMPETIGO:** Excluded. May return with a medical certificate if sores are completely covered by a clean dressing.

**RINGWORMS:** Excluded until all evidence has disappeared or medical certificate is produced.

**MEASLES:** Excluded for at least four days after appearance of rash.

**SLAPPED CHEEK:** An infected person can spread the virus during the early part of the illness before the rash appears. After the rash appears a person is no longer infectious and may return to school with a doctor’s certificate.

**HEAD LICE:** All parents should conduct a weekly head check. If you notice your child is affected, please use a head lice treatment and notify the school office.
**WHOOPING COUGH:** If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken five days of antibiotics.
**MEDICATION:**
No medication can be administered at school without written permission and instructions from a doctor. Please take your child’s medication directly to the office, labelled clearly with your child’s name. Office staff will administer medication according to your doctor’s written instructions. NO MEDICATIONS ARE TO BE KEPT IN CLASSROOMS OR IN STUDENT BAGS.

**ASTHMA:**
All students with mild Asthma are encouraged to keep their Ventolin puffers in their school bag for easy access when needed. Please talk to your child about being responsible for taking this out for sport, to excursions and in the playground, where necessary.

For students that require regular administration of asthma medication, parents should provide clear instructions to the office for trained staff to administer.

It is important to have an asthma plan from your doctor, so that staff are aware and can support your child when needed.

**ANAPHYLAXIS:**
Students requiring an auto-injector **MUST** supply the school with a current Health Care Plan and auto-injector as provided by their doctor. These plans and auto-injectors should be updated annually by parents and copies provided to the school to ensure the safety of your child.
INCURSIONS AND EXCURSIONS

During the year, several incursions take place such as visiting storytellers or performers. Children also have the opportunity to take part in some excursions that are conducted off site. These activities are an important part of the school curriculum and we encourage all children to attend. You will receive notification of upcoming events requiring payment through notes and the school website.

Unfortunately, late payments cannot be accepted. In order to consolidate your child’s participation in such events, permission slips and money MUST be returned to school by the due date specified for each event. Incursion and excursion companies require final student numbers well in advance to ensure the safety and adequate supervision of the students. In order to meet their deadlines, we ask that you meet ours. Risk assessments, medical information and student / teacher ratios must be calculated correctly. This requires whole school coordination that must be done accurately prior to the event. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring your timely confirmation of participation, for the safety of all students and staff.

NEWSLETTER

The school newsletter is posted on the website each fortnight on a Monday (even weeks). A hard copy of the newsletter may be collected from the office foyer for those families who prefer this method. The newsletter is an important form of school and community communication. It is important to read the newsletter to keep up to date with a range of information on school programs or special events.

HELPING AT SCHOOL

Your help is always welcomed at the school. Your child and other class members will benefit from your involvement in a range of ways. Some ways that you can assist are:

- Listening to children read and/or changing readers
- Helping small groups of children to play a game or do an activity
- Assisting with construction of games and other activities
- Helping with classroom tasks such as covering books, sharpening pencils, filling glue pots, etc.
- Sharing skills, expertise, hobbies and interests with a class or small group
- Attending workshops for parents
- Coming along to P&C meetings to learn about school events and meet other parents
Please contact your child’s class teacher if you are able to assist in any way at all.  
(Please refer to the “Child Protection” section of this document)

**CHILD PROTECTION**

To keep our children safe, any parent helpers or volunteers in schools must get clearance through a “Working With Children” check. This can be done by going to [www.kids.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au) to complete a “New Working with Children Check”. Please notify the school once you have approval.

**INTERVIEWS WITH CLASS TEACHERS**

Teacher interviews / three-way-conferences are scheduled each year. These conferences provide the opportunity for parents and students to meet with the class teacher regarding their progress and personal learning goals.

In addition to scheduled conferences, your child's teacher will always be happy to talk to you but please arrange an appointment by calling the office or emailing the teacher directly. This allows for the necessary privacy and focus on your conversation, as bell times can be hectic and teachers need to focus on the safety of the whole class during these times.

Please remember that class teachers have a duty of care to all students under their supervision. Teachers are very busy with the children and do not have time for lengthy discussions at classroom doors or whilst on playground duty.

It is very important in the mornings that once the bell goes, teachers get children quickly settled into the classroom routine. If you need to speak to a teacher please do not do it at this time.

**PARENT and CITIZENS ASSOCIATION (P&C)**

The P&C is an integral part of the school which does much to enhance the wellbeing of the school community.

We encourage all new parents to think about taking an active role in the P&C. The P&C Association provides updates of fundraising & events via the school newsletter and website. Please check the school website for upcoming meetings.

The P&C meet on the third Monday of each month at 7.30pm in the staffroom located in the administration block.

**CURRICULUM**
Students participate in lessons across six Learning Areas (subjects). These are:

- English
- Mathematics
- Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE – social studies)
- Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)
- Personal Development /Health/Physical Education
- Science and Technology

All schools are currently conducting a staged implementation of the new Australian Curriculum through the delivery of the NSW Syllabus K-10. In 2013, teachers participated in professional development surrounding the new English syllabus in preparation for national implementation in 2014. Ongoing professional development will continue as the new Mathematics Syllabus is implemented in 2015 and subsequent syllabi will be implemented in consecutive years.

Barnier will continue to provide student-centred and authentic learning opportunities for our students as 21st Century learners. We deliver the curriculum through the integration of technology in all programs, supported by our extensive fleet of technology including computers, iPads, tablets and interactive whiteboards.

For further details about the Australian Curriculum (delivered through the NSW K-10 Syllabus), please visit website: [www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au)

**CONTACT DETAILS**

It is vitally important that parents contact the school to update our records whenever changes to contact details occur. All contact details are kept electronically and will remain the same as those given at the point of enrolment unless otherwise notified by parents.

Please make sure that the details of your emergency contact person is also updated when necessary.

**LEARNING SUPPORT**
Students experiencing difficulties in learning in regular classes, regardless of the cause, are supported through Learning and Support. It includes support for students with significant learning difficulties, mild intellectual disabilities, language disorders and behavioural needs.

Students who experience difficulties in basic areas of learning and behaviour are supported and the school's Learning Support Team (LST) can assist with the identification of additional learning and support needs to ensure that the educational needs of your child are being met. The school counsellor is an integral part of the LST.

**SCHOOL COUNSELLOR**

School counsellors are experienced teachers who have a degree in psychology and post-graduate qualifications in school counselling. School counsellors work with students, parents or carers and teachers in a variety of ways. Their work includes:

- counselling students
- assisting parents or carers to make informed decisions about their child's education
- assessing students' learning and behaviour
- assisting schools to identify and address disabilities that affect students' learning
- liaising with other agencies concerned with the well-being of students.

With the agreement of parents or carers, school counsellors will pass on to teachers, information that will assist them to better meet the needs of their students.

Students may refer themselves to the school counsellor or may seek an interview at the suggestion of a teacher, a parent or carer, or a friend.

A student's reasons for seeing a school counsellor may include worrying about school work, conflict with friends, being in trouble at school or just feeling "down".

Parents or carers may seek advice from school counsellors about their child's school progress, educational options, including access to special education services, behaviour and for information about help available from other agencies.
Except when students refer themselves to the school counsellor, parents or carers will be involved from the outset. Their consent is required before any psychological testing is undertaken.

Whether working with students, parents or carers, or teachers, school counsellors will explain how they work, listen carefully to what is said, help clarify options and encourage informed decision-making.

Confidentiality
School counselling is a confidential service and school counsellors will check with students, parents or carers before passing on information (such as the results of tests of learning difficulties) to others. Confidentiality will be maintained unless legal requirements, e.g. child protection legislation, override it. Nor will confidentiality be maintained where someone may suffer serious harm from information being withheld.

Referral
Barnier PS has a school counsellor onsite on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. It is necessary for parents or carers to make an appointment by telephoning the school.

Priorities for the school counsellor’s time will be determined, in consultation with the school counsellor, by the principal.

Discussing issues involving your child

1. **AT HOME**

If there is a change in your child's life which affects their emotional well-being please let us know. Children's behaviour and ability to work at school will be affected by disturbances in their lives. All situations will be treated sensitively and confidentially.

2. **AT SCHOOL**

Should you see the need to discuss an issue involving your child, please follow these steps:

1. **Class Teacher** - Please contact the classroom teacher in the first instance. They know your child best and can offer clarification and support.
2. **Assistant Principal** - Should you wish to discuss the matter further, please speak to the Assistant Principal in charge of that Stage.

3. **Deputy Principal** - Further enquires may then be made to the Deputy Principal

4. **Principal** – The principal may be contacted should the matter need further clarification

Please, never confront or speak negatively of a teacher or staff member in the presence of your child. For your child's well-being and continued adjustment to school, it is essential that they always see co-operation between teachers and parents. We would never speak disrespectfully of a parent to a child. We appreciate the same courtesy.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOUR CHILD IS OUR PRIME CONCERN**

We are eager to work with you to make his/her school life happy.

**LOST PROPERTY / NAMING BELONGINGS**

Your child’s name should be on every item that they bring to school. This is particularly vital for school jumpers. We recommend writing your child’s name clearly or a sewn label on the inside of the neck or waistband.

The lost property box is located outside the P&C room near the canteen should any items be misplaced.

**FAMILY LAW RELATED ISSUES**

We know that some families experience breakdown. In meeting our obligations to students and parents, the Department of Education and Communities relies on a number of basic principles. Among the most important is that schools' decisions in relation to family issues will be based on what is considered to be in the best educational interests of the child. Also of paramount importance is the continued effective and efficient operation of the school.

We do not believe that schools are the place to resolve family disputes. Nor should school staff be involved in such disputes.
Parents have a responsibility to advise the school immediately if any change to family circumstances occur which has the potential to impact on the relationship between the school and the parents and/or students.

If court orders are obtained by one or both parents, a copy of the orders should be provided to the school as soon as possible. The school's decisions will be consistent with the court orders.

Unless schools are informed otherwise (eg by providing with a copy of the court orders), they will assume that both parents retain a shared and equal parental responsibility for their children. This means that the school will recognise that each parent has equal duties, obligations, responsibilities and opportunities in relation to matters involving their children's education at the school.

**HOMEWORK**

Work, rest and play are all part of a balanced lifestyle. For your child, this may include homework. The Department of Education and Communities requires schools to have a homework policy. Homework tasks set at Barnier PS have a specific, explicit learning purpose and are to reinforce concepts covered in class. Homework enables students to develop effective work habits and balances in their lives. Barnier encourages all students to take responsibility for managing their time and work output.

When homework is set please encourage and support your child with their homework - **but don't do the work for them**. Discuss any concerns you have about homework with the class teacher.

The setting of homework and any indicative time allocations across year groups varies. The idea that ‘the more homework, the better’ is not supported by research. There’s also no clear research finding as to whether homework raises student achievement. For more information about homework and the latest homework research findings, check out Homework Policy: Research scan document at [http://tinyurl.com/det-homework-policy](http://tinyurl.com/det-homework-policy)

For parents and caregivers, the School A to Z online school community includes homework and study tips along with a range of assignment starters on common classroom topics set for study. Go to: [www.schoolatoz.com.au](http://www.schoolatoz.com.au)