



HOME LEARNING POLICY

RATIONALE

Home learning provides students with opportunities to practice skills, review content and deepen understanding of concepts learned at school. Home learning and practice can also help students to develop self-regulation processes, such as time management and study skills. It is not necessary to assign large amounts of home learning.

AIMS

- To support and reinforce classroom learning.
- To develop a responsibility for self learning.
- To provide a way of supporting and fostering life long learning and study habits and connecting families with the learning of their children.

EXPECTATIONS/IMPLEMENTATION

- Teachers will set work appropriate to each student's skill level and age.
- Activities should be interesting, challenging and when appropriate, open ended.
- Tasks will be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum and can include unfinished classroom activities.
- The content of the work will vary according to the year level, the degree of independence of the student and the complexity of the other tasks.
- The time spent on home learning over the week is to be balanced with recreational, family and cultural activities.
- Home learning is the student's responsibility, although parents can help to establish a home learning routine.

Home learning will consist mainly of:

Prep to Year 4

In the early years, the objective of home learning should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time. It is also intended to introduce the concepts of self discipline and responsibility and prepare them for the upper year levels.

Assigned home learning tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials.

Home learning will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/carers or older siblings.

Students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 minutes of home learning per day (less for younger students) and no home learning tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Year 5 to Year 6

In the upper year levels, the objective of home learning is to build on the concepts of self discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school.

Assigned home learning tasks will include daily independent reading and may include extension tasks, class work, writing and research.

Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on home learning and no home learning tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Roles and responsibilities

Schools can support students by:

- ensuring the school's home learning policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of home learning expectations at the beginning of the school year and providing them with a copy of the home learning policy
- encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment

- ensuring that upper primary school students use home learning diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Teachers can support students by:

- equipping students with the skills to solve problems
- encouraging real life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- giving students enough time to complete home learning tasks, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- checking tasks and providing timely and practical feedback and support as required
- helping students develop organisational and time management skills
- ensuring parents/carers are aware of the school's home learning policy
- developing strategies within the school to support parents/carers becoming active partners in home learning.
- offering a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

Parents can support students by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to home learning
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on home learning and recreational activities
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the home learning
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- ensuring students keep up to date with their home learning responsibilities by using their school diary, reading logs etc.
- discussing key questions or suggesting resources
- discussing home learning with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their home learning tasks.
- supervising their child's use of digital technologies in line with our digital technologies agreement

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's home learning policy
- discussing with their parents/carers home learning expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of home learning tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed to reflect best practice and new DET guidelines.

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated in **December 2018** and is scheduled for review in **December 2021**.

Endorsed by School Council in December 2018.