



Deepdene Primary School

HOMework POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Kim Shipley (Principal) or Chris Vlahos (Assistant Principal).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to Deepdene Primary School's students, parents/carers and school staff the expectations for homework and at-home learning.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Deepdene Primary School.

RATIONALE

Deepdene Primary School has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- providing opportunities for students to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills
- providing opportunities for students to apply new knowledge
- providing opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons
- encouraging students to enrich or extend knowledge individually, collectively and imaginatively
- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers.

Teachers at Deepdene Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful.

DEFINITIONS

Homework is tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

POLICY

At Deepdene Primary School all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- appropriate to students' skill level and age
- designed to help students develop as independent learners
- monitored by the teacher
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

The types of homework that teachers at Deepdene Primary School will include are:

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- completing science investigation exercises

- making or designing an artwork
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising spelling words
- practising sports skills
- practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English
- reading background material for a subject
- reading English texts prior to class discussion
- reading for pleasure
- researching topics associated with set class work
- revising/preparing for tests
- applying new skills to home context such as:
 - planning and cooking food, including following a recipe
 - helping to plan a day trip or holiday, including timings, directions and costs
 - growing plants
 - reviewing their favourite film or book
 - writing a diary entry
- engaging with parents in learning activities such as:
 - rehearsing a presentation with parent/carers, and seeking their feedback
 - interviewing a family member as part of a research project.

Homework should have a specific learning purpose

Homework should encourage the development of good attitudes, work skills and study habits, as well as organisational skills

Homework should reinforce and consolidate classwork and provide extension work

Homework should be challenging and should take into account the child's capabilities and individual learning needs

The time spent on homework will be determined according to the age and ability of the child

In the Early Years, homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with or by parents/carer or older siblings

Completion of homework should be the responsibility of the child, with parents and teachers providing support.

SHARED EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. In order to get the most out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Deepdene Primary School will support students by:

- fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools
- ensuring the school's homework policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year
- encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment
- ensuring that upper primary students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Homework at Deepdene Primary School aims to:

- provide varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- offer a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning experiences.

It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school’s homework expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise

Parents/carers can support their children by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework 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 homework
- ensuring upper primary students keep a homework diary
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families’ culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Deepdene Primary School understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If parents/carers are concerned their child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child’s teacher.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school’s website (or insert other online parent/carer/student communication method)
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	8 th November 2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	November 2025 The recommended minimum review cycle for this policy is 3 to 4 years