

Homework Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school on 9802 0663 for support.

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Weeden Heights Primary School's policy requirements relating to homework.

Scope

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

Rationale

In line with the Victorian Department of Education we see homework as an opportunity for parents and carers to participate in their child's education. Homework complements and reinforces classroom learning and fosters good lifelong study habits. Students practise skills and knowledge learnt at school, in pursuit of becoming independent learners, responsible for their own learning. It is understood and promoted that students participate in a range of out of school hours activities and have time for leisure, play and physical activity.

Weeden Heights Primary School has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council to support students and wellbeing by:

- Providing opportunities for students to review 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

Definitions

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

Policy

At Weeden Heights 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 Weeden Heights Primary School will include are:

- Completing consolidation of learning tasks in core subject areas : Mathematics and English
- Reading for pleasure or pre-reading for class work
- Making or designing artwork
- Practising and playing musical instruments
- Practising spelling words
- Practising sport skills and fitness training
- Practising words/phrases in the school's language or when learning English
- Revising and preparing for tests
- Applying new skills to the home context such as:
 - Planning and cooking food, including following a recipe
 - Assisting the planning of a holiday/daytrip including timings, directions, costs
 - Growing plants
 - Reviewing films and books
 - Writing a diary
- Engaging with parents in learning activities such as:
 - Rehearsing a presentation with a parent/caregiver, and seeking their feedback
 - Interviewing a family member as part of a research project.

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.

Responsibilities and expectations for leaders at Weeden Heights Primary School are to:

- Advise teachers, students and parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with access to the homework policy.

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers** at Weeden Heights Primary School are to:

- Set homework that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- Ensure homework tasks are purposeful – this means they are deliberately designed and planned to support student learning
- Assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback
- Ensure the amount of homework set supports a student to engage with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities outside of school hours
- Offer opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- Being aware of the school's homework policy

- Discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework 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.

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are:

- Ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- Talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- Discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home
- In dialogue, linking homework to:
 - Previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had
 - Family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s)
 - Relevant services, clubs, associations and community.
- Ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

Support for Students and Parents/Carers

Weeden Heights 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 the school community in the following ways:

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school's website
- School newsletter
- Discussed at parent information sessions
- Included in transition and enrolment packs.

Communication

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

Policy Review and Approval

Policy last reviewed	22 July 2024
Consultation	Staff Principal School Council
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	21 July 2028 <i>Mandatory review cycle for this policy is 3-4 years.</i>