



HOMEWORK POLICY

Purpose:

To outline to our school community the Department's and Wonthaggi 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 Wonthaggi Primary School.

Rationale:

Wonthaggi 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.

Definitions:

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

Implementation:

At Wonthaggi 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 Wonthaggi Primary School may include:

Foundation - Year 1

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Daily reading to, with and by parents/carers or older sibling. Daily reading will be recorded in student diaries.
- Spelling activities.

- Practise of simple number facts and counting patterns.
- Homework, apart from reading, will generally not exceed 20 minutes per day. Sustained reading is encouraged, especially on weekends and vacation periods.

Year 2

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Daily reading to, with and by parents/carers or older sibling. Daily reading will be recorded in student diaries.
- Spelling activities.
- Simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities.
- Teachers may use Homework Grids to help promote homework that will engage students and tie in with what students are doing at home.
- Homework, apart from reading, will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day. Sustained reading is encouraged, especially on weekends and vacation periods.

Years 3 - 4

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Independent reading on a daily basis. Daily reading will be recorded in student diaries. Sustained reading is encouraged, especially on weekends and vacation periods.
- Tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, and research.
- Teachers may use Homework Grids to help promote homework that will engage students and tie in with what students are doing at home.
- Homework will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day and may be set during weekends and school vacations.

Years 5 - 6

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Independent reading on a daily basis. Daily reading will be recorded in student diaries. Sustained reading is encouraged, especially on weekends and vacation periods.
- Tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, and research.
- Teachers may use Homework Grids to help promote homework that will engage students and tie in with what students are doing at home.
- Homework will generally not exceed 30-40 minutes per day and may be set during weekends and school vacations.

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 Wonthaggi 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 Wonthaggi 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 (so, they are not ‘busy work’ or where students ‘finish off’ work they did/could not complete in class)
- review 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 and part-time employment (for older students).

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

Wonthaggi 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)
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions

- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

Related Policies and Resources:

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

Policy Review and Approval:

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| Policy last reviewed | November 2024 |
| Consultation | School Council |
| Approved by | Principal |
| Next scheduled review date | 2028 |