



HOMWORK POLICY

PURPOSE

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

SCOPE

This policy applies to

- students of Waverley Meadows Primary School in all year levels P - 6
- staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Waverley Meadows Primary School
- parents/carers of students at Waverley Meadows Primary School.

RATIONALE

Waverley Meadows 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 essential and foundational skills in literacy and numeracy
- providing opportunities for students to practise and apply newly acquired skills or knowledge
- providing opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons
- encouraging students to enrich or extend knowledge and imagination
- 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.

POLICY

At Waverley Meadows 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
- provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

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

- reading for pleasure – individually, collaboratively, and to or with parents or family members
- reading for practise
- word study activities or games
- practising mathematics skills
- discussing ideas for writing with parents or family members
- discussion topics related to our Inquisitive Minds unit of study

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 **teachers at Waverley Meadows 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
- 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 to

- complete the homework that has been set
- discuss homework expectations with their parents/carers
- accept responsibility for the completion of homework tasks
- talk with their teacher if they need help with, or are unable to complete homework
- organise their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities (with support from parents for younger children).

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

- support the school's homework policy
- ensure there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- talk to teachers about any concerns they have about homework
- discuss homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home
- participate with their child in homework tasks as appropriate and necessary, e.g. shared reading.

SUPPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Waverley Meadows 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 expectations or tasks that have been set, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child's teacher.

As a guide, children should be spending the following amount of time on homework

- Prep/year 1 – around 10 minutes at least 5 times a week (this is usually reading with an adult)
- Year 2/Year 3 – around 20 minutes at least 5 times a week
- Year 4/Year 5 – around 30 minutes at least 5 times a week
- Year 6 – around 40 minutes at least 5 times a week

The majority of homework time is reading. We encourage students to read for pleasure. Of course, they are not limited to the time frames as suggested above, if they wish to read more often. For reluctant readers, we suggest reading together with an adult for the recommended periods of time as stated above. Modelling of good reading behaviours from the important adults in their life, is a vital component of establishing good future reading habits which will help them succeed in their learning.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	February 2022
Consultation	Waverley Meadows Primary School Staff School Council
Approved by	Alison Lough – Principal
Next scheduled review date	February 2025