



Homework Policy

Ratified by School Council: N/R

Review Date: May 2021

Rationale

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff Wedge Park's expectations for homework and at-home learning. This policy applies to students in all year levels and to staff responsible for setting homework.

Scope

Wedge Park Primary School expects students to further develop and consolidate their independent learning skills by completing homework tasks. Homework has a positive effect on learning and is an important part of reinforcing the concepts that are introduced in class. It also plays a significant role in building work ethic, self-discipline and responsibility.

Teachers at Wedge Park Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students.

Implementation

The objective of homework 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 further schooling.

Assigned homework tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials. Students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 minutes (Prep to Year 4) and 45 minutes (Year 5/6) of homework per day and homework tasks aren't assigned over the weekends or during the holiday breaks.

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.

Wedge Park 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.
- differentiating homework to cater for students point of need, with the purpose to support or extend students' knowledge.
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with a copy of the homework policy.
- ensuring students use their diaries to provide regular communication between parents and the school.

It is expected that **teachers** will:

- equip students with the skills to solve problems.
- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination.
- set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs.
- provide students with a weekly homework task, including English and Mathematics tasks.
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities.
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support.
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills.
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy.
- develop strategies within the school to support parents/carers becoming active partners in homework.
- offer a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.
- acknowledge communication diaries (reading log) daily.

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

- being aware of the school's homework policy.
- discussing with their parents/carers 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.
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities.

It is expected that **parents/carers** will 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.
- attending the school events or open days their child is involved in.
- ensuring students use their diary to record their homework.
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community.
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks.

Teachers at Wedge Park Primary School understand that students have different learning styles and interests, and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set for him or her, or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage you to speak to their teacher.

The following guidelines have been developed based on the Department of Education and Training guidelines.

Prep

- Reading every night by themselves or with an adult building up to 10 minutes per night.
- English and Mathematics tasks as specified on weekly homework sheet.
- Students may receive further homework that supports concepts already taught in class. It may relate to any area of the curriculum and is developed by the Professional Learning Team.
- Use of technology such as learning websites may be required to support home learning.
- Students are required to record all of their reading in their reading log.

Year 1 and 2

- Reading every night by themselves or with an adult building up to 15 minutes per night.
- English and Mathematics tasks as specified on weekly homework sheet.
- Students may receive further homework that supports concepts already taught in class. It may relate to any area of the curriculum and is developed by the Professional Learning Team.
- Use of technology such as learning websites may be required to support home learning.
- Students are required to record all of their reading in their reading log.

Year 3 and 4

- Reading every night by themselves or with an adult building up to 15-20 minutes per night.
- English and Mathematics tasks as specified on weekly homework sheet.
- Students may receive further homework that supports concepts already taught in class. It may relate to any area of the curriculum and is developed by the Professional Learning Team.
- Use of technology such as learning websites may be required to support home learning.
- Students are required to record all homework in their school diary.

Year 5 and 6

- Reading every night by themselves or with an adult building up to at least 20 minutes per night.
- English and Mathematics tasks as specified on weekly homework sheet.
- Students will receive further homework that supports concepts already taught in class. It may relate to any area of the curriculum and is developed by the Professional Learning Team.
- Use of technology such as learning websites may be required to support home learning.
- Students are required to record all homework in their school diary.

Personalised learning can occur through the use of varied levelled readers, letter/sound knowledge, word study, mathematics tasks and opened ended tasks within the homework content.

Further Information and Resources

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - [Homework Guidelines](#)
 - [Homework Expectations](#)