

## Homework Policy

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### HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Wedge Park Primary School on 03 9743 7595 or [wedge.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:wedge.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au).

### PURPOSE

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

### RATIONALE

Wedge Park 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
- 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 Wedge Park 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 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.

The types of homework that teachers at Wedge Park Primary School may include:

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- completing science investigation exercises
- reading background material for a subject
- reading for pleasure
- researching topics associated with set class work
- 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:
  - 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 Wedge Park 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 Wedge Park Primary School** are to:

- 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.

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

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

- developing a positive and productive approach to homework.
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities.
- read, talk and involve 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 reading.
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community.

## GUIDELINES

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 a 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 a 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 a 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 homework including reading and due dates 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 a 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 homework including reading and due dates in their school diary.

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

## SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Wedge Park 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 way:

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Available on the school's staff website
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	June 2024
Consultation	Policy was emailed to staff and School Council members. Feedback was gathered and utilised from the June 2024 School Council meeting prior to approval.
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	June 2028