

# HOMework POLICY



## Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the office [9807 2239 or [parkhill.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:parkhill.ps@education.vic.gov.au)].

## PURPOSE

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

## SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting homework.

## DEFINITIONS

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

## POLICY

Parkhill Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.

Teachers at Parkhill Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful. This may comprise of reading, maths tasks, inquiry tasks, as well as family activities.

Students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

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 self-discipline and responsibility and prepare them for the upper grades.

### 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 Parkhill 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 Parkhill 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)
- provide timely and practical feedback, where appropriate
- 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, parents and carers**

Teachers at Parkhill Primary School understand that students have diverse 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 your child’s class 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
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

## **RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	May 2023
Consultation	Parkhill Primary School Council, May 2023
Approved by	Michelle Smith, Acting Principal
Next scheduled review date	May 2026