



# HOMEWORK POLICY

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff, Sandringham Primary School's expectations for homework and at-home learning.

## SCOPE

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

## RATIONALE

Sandringham Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students. This policy has been developed in consultation with the school council and staff to support student learning and wellbeing by: providing opportunities for students to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills, provide opportunities for students to apply new knowledge, encourage students to enrich or extend knowledge individually, collectively and imaginatively, foster good lifelong learning and study habits and support learning partnerships with parents/carers.

### Prep to Year 3

In the early years, the objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time.

Assigned homework tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials.

**Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/carers or older siblings.**

Students are generally expected to complete no more than 30 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

### Year 4, 5 to Year 6

In these year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline and responsibility.

Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading and may include extension assignments, class work and research.

Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework.

### 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.

### Sandringham 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
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and providing them with a copy of the homework policy
- encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment

### Teachers at Sandringham Primary School will:

- equip students with the skills to solve problems
- set homework that is curriculum aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- 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 and carers becoming active partners in homework
- offer opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

### 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
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- 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
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences

### Support for students, parents and carers:

Teachers at Sandringham 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 or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage you to speak to their teacher.

### FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

School Policy and Advisory Guide:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/learning/Pages/homework.aspx>

This policy was updated February 2021 and is scheduled for review

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