

HOMEWORK POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office.

PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Footscray North 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 Footscray North Primary School.

Footscray North 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
- encouraging students to enrich or extend knowledge individually, collectively and imaginatively
- 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 Footscray North Primary school all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- appropriate to students' skill level and age
- monitored by the teacher
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

The types of homework that teachers at Footscray North Primary school will include are:

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- practising spelling words
- reading background material for a subject
- reading for pleasure
- researching topics associated with set class work
- engaging with parents in learning activities such as:
 - o rehearsing a presentation with parent/carers, and seeking their feedback

o 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 Footscray North 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 Footscray North 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)
- 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
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities.

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
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

Current (2025) homework expectations

| Grade | Task | Time |
|--------|--|----------------------------------|
| Preps | Reading take home texts and fluency passages Mathletics at parents discretion. | 10 mins daily (5 days a week) |
| Year 1 | Reading, spelling words sent home and reviewed termly, fortnightly activity sheet (including mathletics) | 15 mins daily (5 days a week) |
| Year 2 | Reading, spelling and fortnightly homework activity sheet. (mathletics is on the activity sheet) | 20 mins daily (5 days a week) |

| Year 3 | 20 minutes of reading each day 2 week cycle of 5 open-ended tasks linking to topics currently taught | 20+ minutes daily |
|--------|--|-------------------|
| Year 4 | Take home readers every night 100 min a week. Mathletics tasks and one other task each week | 25+ mins per day |
| Year 5 | Reading every night 20-30 min. Term project. Students research, plan and present back to class at the end of term. Work and targets are given to students over the term with check-in points. | 30+mins per day |
| Year 6 | 120min of reading per week + Slide deck posted to google classrooms weekly with activities based on community calendar, SEL/Topic lessons. | 30+ mins per day |

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Footscray North 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 ways:

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Reminders via our school communication platforms
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Homework – Department Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

| Policy last reviewed | August 2025 |
|----------------------------|--|
| Consultation | Leadership - 26th August 2025 |
| | School Council - September 2025 |
| Approved by | Principal |
| Next scheduled review date | August 2028 |
| | (noting that the recommended minimum review cycle for this |
| | policy is 3 to 4 years) |