
Homework Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Portarlington Primary School on 03 5259 2572 or portarlington.ps@education.vic.gov.au

PURPOSE

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

SCOPE

Portarlington 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
- providing opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons
- 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-schooling hours.

POLICY

At Portarlington 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 types of homework that teachers at Portarlington Primary will include are:

- daily reading (with an expectation of 10-15 minutes of daily reading for Prep, Year One and Year Two students supported by an adult, 15 to 20 minutes for Year Three and Four, and 20-25 minutes of daily reading for Year Five and Year Six)
- practising spelling words or number facts such as multiplication tables
- practising Auslan signs
- researching information about inquiry topics to be studied in the classroom
- 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:
 - rehearsing a presentation with parent/carers, and seeking their feedback
 - 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 Portarlington 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 Portarlington 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
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback
- 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:

- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise

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

Support for Students and Parents/Carers

Portarlinton 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
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This should be read in conjunction with the following policies on the the Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	9th June 2026
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	June 2030