
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 fluency knowledge
- providing opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons
- 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:

- consolidation exercise for mathematics with a focus on number fluency
- consolidation exercises in literacy with a focus on reading fluently
- occasional special projects aimed at community connection and consolidating learning

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. At Portarlington Primary School homework is optional at the parent and/or carers discretion.

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 and focussed on developing fluency in reading and number
- ensure the amount of homework set supports a student to engage with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities outside of school hours
- avoids setting homework that require the use of digital device. This does not prevent students from choosing to use digital devices to support their homework where appropriate.
- offer opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

Responsibilities and expectations for students are:

- being aware of the school's homework expectations
- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise

Homework at Portarlington Primary School is optional and at the discretion of parents and carers. Responsibilities and expectations for parents/carers are:

- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- practising fluency in reading and number
- discussing homework with their child their first language, if English is not the main language spoken spoken at home, in dialogue, linking homework to:
 - o previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had
 - o family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s)
 - o relevant services, clubs, associations and community.

Support for Students and Parents/Carers

Portarlington 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
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent/carer 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	17th September 2026
Consultation	Consultation with the school council occurred on 18.8.26 and 15.9.26 Consultation with student leaders, parents/carers and staff occurred from 18.8.26 to 15.9.26
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	June 2030