



# Homework Policy



## Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the office on 9354 1611 or via email to [pascoe.vale.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:pascoe.vale.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

## PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Pascoe Vale 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 Pascoe Vale Primary School.

## RATIONALE

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

Teachers at Pascoe Vale 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 such things as reading, spelling, mathematics practice exercises or research and extension assignments.

Pascoe Vale 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 and collectively
- fostering lifelong learning and study habits
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers.

## DEFINITIONS

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

## POLICY

At Pascoe Vale Primary School 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.

### **Prep to Year 4**

In the early years, the objective of homework is to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time. It is also intended to introduce the concepts of self-discipline and responsibility and prepare students for the upper grades.

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

Homework will regularly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents, carers or older siblings. Spelling, mathematics practice exercises, research, project and extension activities may also be allocated as homework.

Grade F-2 students are generally not expected to complete more than 15-20 minutes of homework per day.

Grade 3-4 students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 minutes of homework per day.

### **Year 5 to Year 6**

In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school.

Assigned homework tasks may include daily independent reading, revisions and consolidation of mathematical concept. It may also include spelling, research, assignments and class projects.

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 benefit out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Pascoe Vale 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 Curriculum Guidelines
- 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
- ensuring that upper primary students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

**Leaders at Pascoe Vale Primary School will:**

- 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.

**Teachers at Pascoe Vale Primary School will:**

- equip students with the skills to solve problems
- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit students' learning needs
- give students time to complete homework, with consideration to home obligations and extracurricular activities
- provide timely and practical feedback and support for homework as deemed necessary
- 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 a wide range of opportunities for families to engage with their children.

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, 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
- reading to their children, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about homework
- attending school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- ensuring upper primary students keep a homework diary as provided by the school and class teachers
- 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
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks.

## SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Teachers at Pascoe Vale Primary School acknowledge that students have varied learning styles and interests, and may approach learning activities and homework differently. The school will provide homework regularly. Teachers are available to explain and support homework implementation and to meet with parents by appointment. If you are concerned that your child may not understand 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 the class teacher or team leader. On occasion, parents and teachers may consider extension tasks as appropriate.

## 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
- Reminders in our grade level newsletters
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Hard copy available from school office upon request

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	July 2022
Consultation	Consultation with staff, leadership team and the Education School Council Sub Committee has been undertaken in the development of this policy
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	2025