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# HOMEWORK

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## PURPOSE

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

## SCOPE

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

## POLICY

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

Teachers at The Patch 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 of i.e. reading, practice exercises or extension assignments/projects, Mathematics, Reading eggs, spelling

### Prep to Year 4

Homework will consist mainly of:

- should not be seen as a chore
- reading activities to, with and by parents.
- simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities.
- gathering of additional information or materials
- Homework will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day and will not be set on weekends or during vacation periods.

**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.

Homework will consist mainly of:

- independent reading on a daily basis
- tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, essays and research.
- Homework will generally not exceed 45 minutes per day, must be coordinated between teachers to avoid excessive workload, and may be set during weekends and school vacations.

## 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.

The Patch 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
- ensuring that upper primary students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Teachers at The Patch Primary School will:

- set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- help students establish a home study routine
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assess homework and providing timely and practical feedback and support
- make effective use of homework diaries for upper primary students
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure that students have good information skills
- ensure parents and carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- develop strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework.

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 and part-time employment.

It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by: 'encouraging a regular daily session to examine and complete homework by:

- discussing key questions or suggesting resources to help with homework
- helping to balance the time spent between homework and recreational activities
- asking how homework and class work is progressing, and acknowledging success
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in

- talking to teachers about any homework problems
- checking if homework has been set
- ensuring upper primary and secondary students keep a diary
- reading texts set by teachers
- discussing their child's responses to set texts and asking to see their completed work
- 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.

### **Support for students, parents and carers**

Teachers at The Patch Primary School understand that students have different learning styles and interests, and may approach learning activities and homework differently. Whatever the assignment please remember that most benefit comes from homework the child likes doing, so make the experience pleasurable, show interest and build up confidence. It is far better to do no homework than to have tension, argument and tears. If this situation does arise please contact the school immediately. It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as additional homework tasks. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the 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 their teacher.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
  - [Homework Guidelines](#)
  - [Homework Expectations](#)

### **REVIEW CYCLE**

This policy was last updated on March 2020 and is scheduled for review on March 2024

### **SIGNATURE**



**Debra Herrmann**  
**Principal**



**Becks Wapshott**  
**School Council President**