

OAKLEIGH SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school on (03) 9570 1016.

PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Oakleigh South 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 Oakleigh South Primary School.

RATIONALE

Oakleigh South 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.

POLICY

At Oakleigh South 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.

Oakleigh South Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored to suit the developmental needs of students, and teachers are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students.

The objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate concepts that have been introduced during class time. Assigned learning tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom. No homework will be assigned by the school over weekends and school holidays.

Students are expected to complete the following:

Prep

Students are expected to participate in daily reading to, with and by parents/carers or older siblings, practise their word lists, and complete tasks on Mathletics (semester 2) and Reading Eggs.

Year 1 and Year 2

Students are not expected to complete more than 30 minutes a day of homework. Students are expected to read daily, and complete tasks on Mathletics and Reading Eggs. Students may also be set other tasks by their teacher to support their learning.

Year 3 and Year 4

Students are not expected to complete more than 30 minutes a day of homework. Students are expected to read daily, practise their spelling words, and complete tasks on Mathletics, and/or other mathematics tasks. Students may also be set other tasks by their teacher to support their learning.

Year 5 to Year 6

The intent of homework is to build on the concepts of responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary education. Students are not expected to complete more than 45 minutes a day of homework. Students are expected to read daily, practise their spelling words, and complete tasks on Mathletics, and/or other mathematics tasks. Students may also be set other tasks by their teacher to support their learning.

The types of homework that teachers at Oakleigh South Primary School will include are:

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics, such as Mathletics tasks
- completing science investigation exercises
- practising spelling words or word lists
- practising sports skills
- practising words/phrases learnt in Japanese
- researching topics for class projects
- reading for pleasure
- 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 Oakleigh South 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 Oakleigh South 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)
- 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:

- 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
- 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.

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
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home,
- in dialogue, linking homework to:
 - previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had
 - family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s)
 - relevant services, clubs, associations and community.
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Oakleigh South 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:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff handbook
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Discussed at parent information sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2023
Consultation	School Improvement Team, School Council, October 2023
Approved by	Principal - Ron Cantlon
Next scheduled review date	October 2027