



Highvale Primary School

Homework Policy

Reviewed: February 2025

Next Review: February 2028

Review Cycle: 3-4 years

Communication Method: Website, Newsletter, Compass 'School Documentation'

[Minimum Standards](#)



Help for Non-English Speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Highvale Primary School

PURPOSE

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

RATIONALE

Highvale 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

At Highvale, we acknowledge that homework needs to take into consideration the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, sport and recreation and cultural pursuits as well as study.

Respect

Responsibility

Honesty and Integrity

Commitment

DEFINITIONS

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

POLICY

At Highvale 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.

Homework at Highvale includes an emphasis on daily reading for pleasure and purpose. The volume and complexity of homework and the time required to complete it will increase as the child progresses into higher year levels.

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. Completion of Homework is the student's responsibility.

Additional Homework tasks may be made available to individual students, at the teacher's discretion and in consultation with the family.

Prep to Year 2

In the early years, the objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time.

The focus of homework will be consistency, through daily reading to, with, or by parents/carers. Practise of mathematics skills, spelling and handwriting skills will be introduced as required.

Year 3 and 4

In the middle primary years, practise and consolidation of the concepts that have been introduced during class time remains the focus. There is an emphasis on self-discipline and responsibility.

The focus of homework will be consistency, through daily reading to, with, or by parents/carers. Practise of mathematics skills and word study will be introduced as required.

Year 5 and 6

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

Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading, however we encourage reading aloud to and with a parent at least once per week. Homework will also include the practise of mathematics skills and word study. It may include extension assignments, class work, essays and research.

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 Highvale 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 Highvale 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 and part-time employment (for older students).

Highvale Primary School will support students by:

- 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 a copy of the homework policy on the school website.
- encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment
- require Year 3,4,5,6 primary students to use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

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 feedback
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time with the assistance of parents to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment.

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are:

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- 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

Highvale 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
- AVAILABLE PUBLICLY ON OUR SCHOOL'S WEBSITE (OR INSERT OTHER ONLINE PARENT/CARER/STUDENT COMMUNICATION METHOD)
- INCLUDED IN STAFF HANDBOOK/MANUAL
- REMINDERS IN OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
- DISCUSSED AT ANNUAL STAFF BRIEFINGS/MEETINGS
- INCLUDED IN TRANSITION AND ENROLMENT PACKS
- DISCUSSED AT PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS/SESSIONS
- DISCUSSED AT STUDENT FORUMS

HARD COPY AVAILABLE FROM SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION UPON REQUEST

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	February 2025
Consultation	Staff - February School Council - March
Approved by	Principal

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Next scheduled review date	February 2028
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