



TEMPLETON
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Homework Policy

Rationale:

Homework is shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students, and parents/carers. Victorian Government Schools are required to have a Homework Policy that is readily available and communicated to all school stakeholders. Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Aims:

- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop a responsibility for self-learning.
- To encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning.

Implementation

- All students in Years 2 – 6 will be allocated a homework book.
- Classroom teachers will set homework appropriate to each child's year level.
- Each set task will be purposeful, meaningful, and relevant to the current classroom curriculum.
- All homework activities assessed with appropriate feedback given.
- Failure to meet homework requirements will result in appropriate consequences.
- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.
- It is the student's responsibility, under the supervision of parents, to ensure homework is completed on time and to a satisfactory standard.
- Homework policy will be distributed to parents at the start of each year via Year Level Blogs and the School Website

Prep – Year 2

Homework will consist of:

- daily reading of take-home book to parent
- daily practice of high frequency word lists (which will include a written task in Year 2)
- gathering of additional information or materials to support the classroom program.
- assigned tasks may include online activities.

As per DET guidelines, in P-2, set homework should not exceed 60 minutes per week. Additionally, P-2 students are expected to read for 15 minutes every day. Parents are encouraged to guide student time management. Homework exceeding 15 minutes a day becomes unproductive. 15 mins reading

Years 3 – 4

Homework will consist of:

- reading with parents and independent reading (minimum of 15 minutes per night).
- reinforcement or enrichment of tasks related to classroom work.
- assigned tasks may include online activities.

As per DET guidelines, in Years 3 - 4, set homework will not exceed 120 minutes per week. Additionally, Year 3-4 students are expected to read for 20 minutes every night. Parents are encouraged to guide student time management. Homework exceeding 30 minutes a day becomes unproductive.

Years 5 – 6

Homework will consist of:

- independent reading daily
- practising of times tables to improve accuracy and speed.
- tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, essays, and research
- assigned tasks may include online activities.

As per DET guidelines, in Years 5 - 6, set homework will not exceed 120 minutes per week. Additionally, 5-6 students are expected to read for 30 minutes every night. Parents are expected to guide student time management. Homework exceeding 30 minutes a day becomes unproductive.

Obligations and Responsibilities

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students, and their parents/carers. To get the most out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

It is expected that the Leadership Team 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 access to current policy via the school website and Year Level Blogs.
- 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.

It is expected that the staff will support students by:

- 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 the students' learning needs.
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities.
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support.
- 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 in their children.

It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own learning by:

- discussing homework expectations with their teachers, parents/carers.
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set times.
- 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, and 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 them, 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 the homework.
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in.
- ensuring upper primary students keep a homework diary.
- 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, parents, and carers

Templeton Primary School understands that students have different learning strengths and interests and may approach learning activities and homework in varying ways. If parents are concerned that their child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set or spending an extended period completing their homework, we encourage them to speak to their classroom teacher.

Consequences for not submitting homework.

1. Each Year Level at Templeton Primary School assigns a due date for homework or projects. This may be weekly, or after a series of weeks for larger assignments. This date should be clearly articulated via Year Level Blog or Rubric.
2. In the event a student forgets to complete the task by the due date, the student will be afforded an additional day to complete the task.
3. If the student forgets to complete the task by the additional day, the student will need to complete the task either in an assigned Lunchtime Homework Club, during Reward Time, or in the Assistant Principal's Office at lunchtime.
4. If the student continually fails to complete homework or home reading, the classroom teacher will contact the parents/carers.
5. If the occurrences continue, the Assistant Principals will follow up with an additional lunchtime session and contact the parents/carers.
6. For extreme cases of not completing homework or home reading, the Principal will contact the parents/carers.

