

NPS HOMEWORK POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Newhaven Primary School on 59567326

PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Newhaven Primary Schools' policy requirements relating to homework.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Newhaven Primary School

RATIONALE

Newhaven 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.
- Building confidence

DEFINITIONS

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

POLICY

At Newhaven 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.

IMPLEMENTATION

Prep to Year 2

In the early years, the objective of home learning should be 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 them for the upper grades.

Home Learning mainly consists of daily reading to or practising reading and spelling words, with, or by parents/carer or older siblings 20 minutes per day four times per week may

Years 3 and 4

Home Learning mainly consists of students reading for 20 minutes per day four times per week and completing a diary entry about what they have read. Encouraging students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials for school topics. Parents are expected to sign off in diary.

Year 5 to Year 6

In the upper year levels, the objective of home learning is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school. Home learning tasks will include daily independent reading and may include extension assignments, class work, essays and research and may be incomplete work from class. Home learning is 30 minutes four times per week with 20 minutes reading and 10 minutes of other learning such as tables, spelling, topic research

All Year Levels

Teacher will provide support/time for those who cannot/do not achieve expectations at home. If a student is not academically managing at grade level teachers may work with parents to provide extra support and assistance in the form of suggested activities to practise to try and improve skill development.

Vacation Home Learning Student Absence Learning Plans will be supplied on request when students are on extended family vacations.

Home learning is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. In order to get the most out of home learning tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities. School Newhaven 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 home learning policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of home learning expectations at the beginning of the school year and providing them with a copy of the home learning 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 home learning diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Teachers

Teachers at Newhaven Primary School will endeavour to:

- equip students with the skills to solve problems
- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- assess assigned home learning and provide timely and practical feedback and support
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- develop strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in home learning

Students

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

- being aware of the school's home learning policy
- discussing with their parents/carers home learning expectations
 - accepting responsibility for the completion of home learning 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.

Parents / carers

Parents are encouraged to support their children by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to home learning
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on home learning 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 home learning
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- ensuring upper primary students keep a home learning diary
- discussing home learning with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences

- linking home learning 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 home learning tasks.

Support for students, parents and carers

Teachers at Newhaven Primary School understand that students have different learning styles and interests and may approach learning activities and home learning differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the home learning tasks that have been set for him or her or is spending a long period of time completing their home learning, we encourage you to speak to their teacher.

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 Newhaven 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 Newhaven 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).

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

Newhaven 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
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	March 2023
Consultation	Staff
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	March 2026