

Flemington Primary School

Homework Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Flemington Primary School on 9376 7137 or email flemington.ps@education.vic.gov.au

PURPOSE AND RATIONALE

At Flemington Primary School homework and home learning should assist students by:

- Complementing learning from the classroom
- Encouraging students to be responsible for their own learning
- Supporting students to develop effective time management and organisational study habits; and
- Allowing students to engage with family members and carers about their learning.

POLICY STATEMENT

The aim of homework and home learning is to:

- Provide opportunities for students to practise what they are learning in the classroom
- Support and extend classroom learning
- Develop a responsibility for self-learning; and
- Build education connections between school and home.

DEFINITIONS

- **Homework or home learning** - one or more tasks assigned by teachers to students to be completed outside regular school hours and within a specified timeframe.

ACTION GUIDELINES

At Flemington Primary School we aim to nurture a lifelong respect and enjoyment for learning. We encourage parents and carers to play an active role in the education of their children. Continuing to learn after the school bell - through reading, practising skills developed in the classroom, or researching something new – is an important way for a child to extend their knowledge and abilities, and for parents and carers to actively participate in their child's education.

Teachers at FPS are encouraged to exercise discretion in setting tasks that are purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the students learning. Teachers will advise parents and carers of homework ideas, suggestions and expectations. It is expected that all students complete these tasks as outlined by the teacher. However, we also understand that some students may have difficulty completing homework tasks due to other commitments including sport, music, parent or carer work responsibilities or other family and cultural activities.

Parents should contact their child's teacher if homework tasks are unclear or if they become stressful at home. The classroom teacher will inform the parents or carers if additional homework will benefit a student's learning development. This may require a meeting between the parent or carers and the teacher to discuss an approach.

Things parents can do to support their child with homework

In the primary years of schooling, parents and carers can play an important role by modelling to their child effective reading and writing behaviours. This includes:

- Reading with / to your child for enjoyment
- Writing in front of your child or with your child
- Playing a game with your child that allows them to practise what they have learned at school
- Going to the community library with your child
- Help your child set up a consistent organised place for homework to be done
- Help your child develop a consistent schedule for completing homework
- Encourage, motivate and prompt your child. Remember that the purpose of homework is for your child to practise and use what they have learned. If your child is not able to consistently do the homework by themselves then contact your child's teacher
- Ensure there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities; and
- Discuss homework with your child in their first language and link it to previous experiences.

MONITORING, REPORTING AND REVIEW

Teacher's role

Teachers will outline homework expectations at the beginning of each term in the 'Curriculum Newsletter'. However, variations in homework and home learning may change during the term depending on the learning experiences in the classroom. Any changes will be clearly communicated to parents.

In accordance with departmental guidelines, FPS will ensure that homework set by teachers is:

- Appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- Purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- Interesting, challenging and when appropriate open-ended
- Assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided; and
- Balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities.

Homework in Prep to Year 2:

- Will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents, carers or older siblings
- May include enrichment activities or a family task for parents and carers to engage with their children
- It will not be set on weekends or during the holidays
- Up to a maximum of 20 minutes per day.

Homework in Year 3 to 4:

- Will mainly consist of independent reading on a daily basis
- May include tasks that can be completed independently to support classroom learning. Where appropriate, this may include teachers assigning unfinished classroom activities as home tasks
- Up to a maximum of 30 minutes per day.

Homework in Year 5 to 6:

- The purpose of homework in Year 5/6 is to develop good work habits, time management and organisational skills in order to prepare students for secondary education
- Will mainly consist of independent reading on a daily basis
- May include tasks that can be completed independently to support classroom learning
- Where appropriate, this may include teachers assigning unfinished classroom activities as home tasks
- Up to a maximum of 45 minutes per day.

COMMUNICATION

- Included in staff induction and training
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff handbook
- Reminders in school newsletters and on DOJO
- Hard copy available from school office upon request.

RELATED POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

- Curriculum Framework Policy

REFERENCES

- Victorian Curriculum F-10 - Homework Guidelines
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/guidelines.aspx>
- Victorian Curriculum F-10 - Homework Expectations
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/expectations.aspx>
- Victorian Curriculum F-10 - Curriculum
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/curriculum.aspx>

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	December 2023
Approved by	Principal
Consultation	School Council
Next scheduled review date	December 2026