

Homework Policy

Melton Primary School will:

- advise parents of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with a copy of the homework policy
- follow up with parents if a student regularly fails to complete homework
- encourage the school to work with parents/guardians to establish good homework patterns from early primary school
- ensure that our upper primary school students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Successful practice

This table describes successful homework practice for the different year levels.

Years	Homework...
Prep to 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should not be seen as a chore • enables the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials • will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings • will generally not exceed 30 minutes a day or be set on weekends or during vacations.
5 to 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should include daily independent reading • should be coordinated across subjects in secondary schools to avoid unreasonable workloads for students • may extend class work, projects and assignments, essays and research • will generally range from: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 30 to 45 minutes a day at Year 5

Homework Expectations

Homework will be:

- 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
- balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities.

Types of homework

This table describes the type of homework that our students may be asked to complete.

Type	Description
Practice exercises	<p>Provide opportunities for students to apply new knowledge or to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reading for pleasure • practising spelling words • practising physical education skills • writing essays and other creative tasks • practising and playing musical instruments • completing consolidation exercises for Mathematics • practising words/phrases learnt in a Language Other Than English.
Preparatory homework	<p>Provides opportunities for students to gain background information so they are better prepared for future lessons, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • collecting newspaper articles • researching topics for class work • reading background material for History • reading English texts for class discussion • revising information about a current topic.
Extension assignments	<p>Encourage students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • writing a book review • researching local news

- finding material on the Internet
- making or designing an art work
- monitoring advertising in a newspaper
- completing Science investigation exercises

Helping students

Parents and carers can help students with their homework by:

- encouraging a regular daily session to examine and complete homework
- discussing key questions or suggesting resources to help with homework
- helping to balance the time spent between homework and recreational activities
- asking how homework and class work is progressing, and acknowledging success
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- talking to teachers about any homework problems
- checking if homework has been set
- ensuring upper primary and secondary students keep a homework diary
- reading texts set by teachers
- discussing their child's responses to set texts and asking to see their completed work
- 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.

Teachers will help students with their homework by:

- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- helping students establish a home study routine
- giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assessing homework and providing timely and practical feedback and support
- making effective use of homework diaries for upper primary students
- helping students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensuring that students have good information skills
- ensuring parents and carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- developing strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework.