



## Homework Policy

This policy has been developed to ensure that families are aware of the Homework expectations at Melton Primary School.

## Melton Primary 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 Practise

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

## 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.

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

## 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.