

Aspendale Gardens Primary School

Homework Policy

Rationale:

Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. Homework tasks provide opportunities for students to apply new knowledge or to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills.

Aims:

- To support classroom learning experiences.
- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop responsibility and independence for learning.
- To practice skills, review classroom learning and deepen understanding of concepts learned.

Implementation:

- At the commencement of every year, parents are informed of the homework expectations specific to that year level, including submission timelines.
- Classroom teachers will set homework appropriate to each child's skill level and age.
- All students will have some record of homework activities.
- Homework activities should be interesting, challenging and where appropriate, open-ended.
- Each set task must be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum.

Foundation – Year 3:

Homework will not exceed 20 minutes per day. Each week, homework may consist of:

- Daily reading take home books (reading to and with parents)
- Reading and spelling words

Optional Tasks:

- Wushka or Literacy Planet – online Literacy programs
- Mathematics tasks – may include My Numeracy tasks

Years 4 – 6:

Homework will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day. Each week, homework may consist of:

- Daily independent reading
- Times tables and number facts practise, may also include My Numeracy tasks
- Spelling words
- Learning tasks aligned with the current Unit of Inquiry

While we strongly encourage all students to complete homework, additional expectations are in place for students in Year 6, in preparation for their transition to secondary school.

Roles and Responsibilities

Schools can support students by:

- connecting families with the learning of their children
- ensuring the school's homework policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with a copy of the homework policy
- encouraging parents of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children
- ensuring that upper primary students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school. Diaries may be electronic.

Teachers can support students by:

- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit students' learning needs
- giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- helping students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensuring parents are aware of the school's homework policy
- offering a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

Parents can support students 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
- 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

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- discussing with their parents homework expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities.