

MORNINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



HOMEWORK POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff the expectations for homework and at-home learning for Mornington Primary School students.

Rationale

Homework is an important link in the learning process as it serves to reinforce what is taught at school. It is an essential part of our teaching and learning strategies, designed to build skills in our students, and implemented in a way that makes it relevant and rewarding.

Homework enables parents to be involved and share with the teacher the task of educating their children.

Regular home practice encourages independent work and study habits and the use of non-school resources. Homework may assist in the development of organisational skills and children taking responsibility for their own learning.

Policy

Mornington Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.

Teachers at Mornington Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful.

Prep to Year 2

In the early years, the objective of homework 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.

Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/carer or older siblings and Mathletics and/or Reading Eggs.

Any assigned homework tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials.

Students are generally not expected to complete more than 20 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will normally be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Year 3 to 4

In the middle years, the objective of homework 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.

Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/carer or older siblings and Mathletics and/or Reading Eggspress.

Any additional assigned homework tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and may encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials.

Students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 - 40 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will normally be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Year 5 to Year 6

In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school.

Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading, Mathematics and/or Reading Eggs and may also include follow up from classroom work and specific research tasks.

Any additional assigned homework tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and may encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials.

Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework and no homework tasks will normally be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

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.

Mornington 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 homework policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and providing them with access to the homework 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 homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Teachers at Mornington Primary School will:

- set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- provide timely and practical feedback and support
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- develop strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework
- offer a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning

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

- being aware of the homework expectations for their particular Mod
- discussing with their parents/carers homework expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames

- following up on comments made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- developing and applying appropriate time-management

It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by:

- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- showing interest in the current unit of inquiry and encouraging them to take their learning further and/or take action
- developing a positive and productive approach to home learning
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about their child's homework
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- 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, and linking it to previous experiences
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks

Support for students, parents and carers

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

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - [Homework Guidelines](#)
 - [Homework Expectations](#)
- **REVIEW PERIOD**
- This policy was last updated in September 2018 and is scheduled for review in September 2021.