



## Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school on 98852421.

## PURPOSE

- To provide a documented and commonly understood framework that articulates the expectations of students, parents and teachers with the implementation of the school's *Homework* programs
- To provide support for students, parents and teachers, with the implementation of Solway Primary School's *Homework* programs

## SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting Homework.

## RATIONALE

Homework describes those learning tasks and experiences that are provided by the teachers and then undertaken by students outside of school hours, typically at home. At Solway Primary School, our approach to student learning, including *Homework*, involves a partnership between students, teachers and parents. *Homework* can provide opportunities for students to take increasing responsibility for their learning. It can also provide parents with opportunities to connect with and participate in their children's learning.

As a Victorian government school, Solway Primary School is responsible for developing, publishing and implementing a Homework policy that reflects DE's *Homework Guidelines* and *Homework Expectations*.

Purposeful Homework is designed to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- Providing opportunities for students to review, revise, and reinforce newly acquired skills.
- Fostering good lifelong learning and study habits.
- Developing self-regulation processes such as goal-setting, self-efficacy, self-reflection, and time management.
- Providing an opportunity for parents/carers to engage and support their child's learning and celebrate their progress.

## DEFINITIONS

**Homework** is tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

## POLICY

Solway Primary School acknowledges that Homework can be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students. Teachers at Solway Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful.

The types of Homework tasks set may include, but are not limited to:

- Completing consolidation exercises for mathematics.
- Practicing spelling words.
- Researching topics associated with set class work.
- Completing science investigation exercises
- Making or designing an artwork
- Practising and playing musical instruments
- Practising sports skills
- Practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English
- Reading English texts prior to class discussion

- Reading for pleasure
- Revising/preparing for tests
- Applying new skills to home contexts such as:
  - Planning and cooking food, including following a recipe;
  - Helping to plan a day trip or holiday, including timings, directions and costs.
- Engaging with parents in learning activities such as rehearsing a presentation.

## GUIDELINES

- Solway Primary School's *Homework* policy will be developed and implemented in consultation with the school community
- *Homework* tasks and experiences will be structured and made available in ways that enable students with varying levels of academic, personal and social development to access and engage with
- Emphasis will be placed on *Homework* tasks and experiences that complement and reinforce previously learnt concepts, skills and understandings
- *Homework* tasks and experiences will be purposeful and relevant to the *Victorian Curriculum*
- Elements of choice within the *Homework* program will be provided at each year level
- Solway Primary School's *Homework* program will provide flexibility for parents, regarding their degree of involvement with their children's *Homework* tasks and experiences

## IMPLEMENTATION

1. Students, teachers and parents will be advised of the *Homework* expectations for each level at the beginning of the school year.
2. Homework is based on a Whole School Approach. Homework is set on a twice a term cycle.
3. Solway Primary School's *Homework* policy will be available to view at any time. It is: included in staff induction processes and staff training; available publicly on the Solway Primary School website; included in transition and enrolment packs; available in hard copy on request.
4. There is an expectation that students read each night. Students can read a take-home book and/or other suitable reading material.
5. It is expected that students will undertake Reading, Spelling and Mathematics activities as part of their Homework.
6. Parents are given the opportunity to comment on tasks.
7. Core tasks and optional tasks will all be considered as Homework.
8. Parents are encouraged to support their child/ren to complete Homework tasks.
9. At times, the Homework grid will be replaced by alternative projects.

## SHARED EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. To get the most out of Homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Responsibilities and expectations for leaders at Solway Primary School are to:

- Advise teachers, students and parents/carers of Homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with access to the Homework policy.

Responsibilities and expectations for teachers at Solway Primary School are to:

- Communicate the approach and expectations of Homework to families via the school's communication portal at the beginning of each school year.
- Set Homework that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's year level and age.
- Ensure Homework tasks are purposeful and consistent across the year level.
- Help to provide accountability for the completion of Homework assignments to a standard that reflects the students' ability.
- Endeavour to assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback
- Ensure the amount of Homework set supports a student to engage with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities outside of school hours.
- Offer opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

Responsibilities and expectations for students are:

- Understanding the purpose of why we do Homework.
- Discussing Homework expectations with their parents/carers.
- 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.

Responsibilities and expectations for parents/carers are:

- Ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on Homework and recreational, family and cultural activities.
- Talking to teachers about any concerns they have about homework.
- Help to provide accountability for the completion of Homework assignments to a standard that reflects the students' ability.
- Discussing Homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home.
- In dialogue, linking Homework to:
  - Previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had
  - Family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s)
  - Relevant services, clubs, associations and community.
- Ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete Homework.

## SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Teachers at Solway Primary School understand that students have different learning strengths and interests, and may approach learning activities and Homework differently. If a parent/carer is concerned that their child/ren 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, they are encouraged to speak to their classroom teacher.

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	February 2025
Consultation	Recommended Consult with Education Committee in 2025 and be presented to school council at next meeting
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	February 2029