



PATTERSON LAKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

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HOMework POLICY

RATIONALE

Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning. It fosters good lifelong learning and study habits, encourages students to be responsible for their own learning, and provides opportunities for parents to participate in their child's education.

AIMS

1. To instil a positive approach and attitude to home learning.
2. To ensure that students are provided with homework on a regular basis.
3. To assist student learning and the establishment of good homework patterns from early primary school.
4. To provide opportunities for students to develop organisational and time management skills, self discipline, personal responsibility for learning, and skills in using resources accessible outside the school.
5. To increase parent awareness and opportunities for participation in their child's education.

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- Parents will be informed of the Grade's Homework program at the beginning of the school year and at the commencement of each term.
- Parents will be encouraged to show a positive attitude towards homework and may be required to assist by discussing the task, suggesting ideas, assisting their child to gather and interpret information, encouraging their child to complete homework by the due date and providing feedback to the teacher.
- Teachers will endeavour to ensure that homework is:
 - documented with parent and student friendly language
 - presented using language consistent within departments and across year levels
 - appropriate to the student's skill level and age
 - balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities
 - purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum and where appropriate, open ended
 - monitored and/or assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided
- It is the responsibility of the Year Level coordinators to ensure the department team is consistent in year/class expectations, communicate clear timeline expectations to students and families and that the construction of the Homework Grid is in student/parent friendly language.
- Teachers will discuss the content and requirements of homework tasks with children and will give students enough time to complete homework, taking into account home obligations and extracurricular activities.
- Students will be encouraged to take responsibility for planning and completing homework by the due date. They will be given assistance in developing time management skills and managing outside school commitments.
- Students who have difficulties completing homework requirements will be encouraged to discuss alternative arrangements with the teacher concerned.
- The completion of tasks using a variety of mediums will be encouraged. It is not an expectation that a computer or Internet is accessible and therefore computer generated completion is not a requirement.
- Failure by students to complete homework on a regular basis will be followed up by teachers with parents.
- There will be opportunities for consultation between parent and teacher if the child is requiring extension or is having difficulty with the content of the homework.
- School Council, in partnership with the Principal and teachers and after consultation with parents and students, are responsible for developing and publishing a Homework Policy consistent with the Victorian Schools Policy and Advisory Guide.
- Homework activities and requirements will generally be based on the Years Prep–2 and Years 3–6 guidelines below.

Year Level Guidelines

Years Prep - 4

Homework:

- Should not be seen as a chore
- Will generally not exceed 30 minutes a day or be set on weekends or during vacations
- Will consist of English and Mathematics
- Enables the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials

Types of Activities may include:

- Home Reading; consisting of daily reading to, with and by parents, caregivers or siblings.
- Spelling
- Practice exercises and informal tasks
- Completing unfinished class work

Years 5 and 6

Homework:

- Will generally range from 30-45 minutes a day
- Will consist of English and Mathematics

Types of Activities may include;

- Daily independent reading
- Extension of class work, projects and assignments, essays and research.
- Practice exercises
- Completing unfinished class work

EVALUATION

Guidelines are updated annually and/or as per DET recommendations.

CERTIFICATION

This policy was ratified at the School Council meeting held at Patterson Lakes Primary School on February 24, 2021.