



HOMEWORK POLICY

PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Mitcam Primary School's policy requirements relating to homework.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting homework at Mitcam PS.

RATIONALE

Mitcam PS has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- providing opportunities for students to practise and apply new knowledge
- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers.

DEFINITIONS

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

POLICY

Mitcam Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students. At Mitcam PS, teachers any homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- appropriate to students' skill level and age
- designed to help students develop as independent learners
- monitored by the teacher
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.



Prep to Year 4

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

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.

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 30 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Year 5 to Year 6

Homework tasks will mainly consist of daily independent reading and logging this reading in a reading journal. At times, it may also include extension assignments, projects or research.

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.

Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework and no homework tasks will 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.

Responsibilities and expectations for **leaders at Mitcham PS** 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 Mitcham PS** are to:

- set homework that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- ensure homework tasks are purposeful
- 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
- encourage parents/carers to read to and with their children for enjoyment



Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- (for older students) organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, or other recreational 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 the homework
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home,
- 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 an appropriate study area for their child to complete homework.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Mitcham PS understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If parents/carers are concerned their child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child's teacher.

Mitcham Primary School has in place a learning programs that students may attend before or after school or during lunchtimes to assist with areas of need or interest, including:

- 'Snack and Study' (by invitation)

Students may be referred to programs by their teacher in consultation with their parents/carers. For more information about these programs, please contact the school.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	[September 2024]
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Consultation	School Council Education Sub-Committee 10 th Sept 2024
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	[September 2027-2028]