



# Homework Policy

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## PURPOSE

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

## SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Cheltenham East Primary School.

## RATIONALE

Cheltenham East Primary school has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- providing opportunities for students to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills
- providing opportunities for students to apply new knowledge
- providing opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons
- encouraging students to enrich or extend knowledge individually, collectively and imaginatively
- 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

At Cheltenham East Primary school all 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.

The types of homework that teachers at Cheltenham East Primary school will include are:

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- completing science investigation exercises
- making or designing an artwork
- practising spelling words
- practising sports skills
- practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English

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- reading background material for a subject
  - reading English texts prior to class discussion
  - reading for pleasure
  - researching topics associated with set class work
  - revising/preparing for tests
  - applying new skills to home context such as:
    - following a recipe
    - helping to plan a day trip or holiday, including timings, directions and costs
    - growing plants
    - reviewing their favourite film or book
    - writing a diary entry
  - engaging with parents in learning activities such as:
    - rehearsing a presentation with parent/carers, and seeking their feedback
    - interviewing a family member as part of a research project.

## 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 Cheltenham East 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 Cheltenham East Primary School** are to:

- set homework that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- ensure homework tasks are purposeful – this means they are deliberately designed and planned to support student learning (so, they are not 'busy work' or where students 'finish off' work they did/could not complete in class)
- 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:

- 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
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment (for older students).

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,
- 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.

### **Homework Timeframe Guidelines**

- Foundation 10 minutes per day, inclusive of reading
- Year 1 10-15 minutes per day, inclusive of reading
- Year 2 15 minutes per day, inclusive of reading
- Year 3 60 minutes per week, inclusive of reading
- Year 4-5 90 minutes per week, inclusive of reading
- Year 6 120 minutes per week, inclusive of reading

### **SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS**

Cheltenham East Primary School 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.

### **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 school website
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

### **RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

Related Department of Education Policies:

- [Homework](#)

### **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	6 September 2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	September 2026