



# HOMework POLICY

## PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Gardenvale 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 Gardenvale Primary School.

## RATIONALE

Gardenvale 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 Gardenvale 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 Gardenvale Primary School may include are:

- daily reading to, with, or by parents/carer or older siblings
- reading for pleasure
- reading English texts prior to class discussion
- practising spelling words



- practising handwriting
- practising the alphabet and sight words
- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- using online websites to consolidate maths skills
- completing activities related to the Inquiry Unit being studied
- completing science investigation exercises
- making or designing an artwork
- practising sports skills
- practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English
- reading background material for a subject
- completing well-being activities
- researching topics associated with set class work
- applying new skills to home context such as:
  - planning and cooking food, including 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
- communicating and engaging with parents/community members in learning activities such as:
  - rehearsing a presentation with parent/carers, and seeking their feedback
  - helping with tasks in the family/community
  - 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** Gardenvale Primary School are to:

- advise teachers, students and parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year during year level information evenings and provide them with access to the homework policy located on the school website and Compass.

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers at** Gardenvale 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)
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback
- decide according to year levels the rewards for homework completion and the consequences of non-completion of set homework tasks
- follow up with parents if students fail to complete homework on a regular basis
- 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
- completing assigned unfinished classroom activities set as homework tasks
- 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** regarding student homework 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
- reading to, talking with and involving students in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- 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

Gardenvale 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.

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	November 2022
Consultation	Staff – 10/10/22 Education Sub-Committee – 19/10/22
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	November 2026