



Mt Eliza Primary School Homework Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact our office, 03 9787 1385.

Policy review team members: Amy Hille, Jessica Merritt, Cassandra Humphreys and Kim Wheeler.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on:
31.7.23

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Mt Eliza 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 Mt Eliza primary School.

Rationale

Homework is an opportunity for strengthening the link between home and school. It gives the parents/carers a chance to be involved in their child's learning. Parents/carers, in partnership with the school, should encourage their children to establish effective study routines from early primary school as directed by the Department of Education and Training. Homework complements and reinforces classroom learning. Mt Eliza Primary School has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council, staff and students to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- providing opportunities for students to review, revise and reinforce acquired skills
- providing opportunities for students to apply 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.

Implementation

At Mt Eliza Primary School all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- appropriate to students' skill level and stage/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
- communicated to parents via the fortnightly year level newsletter, distributed via Compass.

Teachers at Mt Eliza Primary School are encouraged to exercise discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students. This may comprise of, but is not restricted to, reading, spelling, writing, mathematics and unit of inquiry based tasks.



Prep to Year 2

In the Junior School, 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 students for the Middle School.

- Students are expected to read daily to, with, or by parents/carers.
- Assigned homework tasks will activate prior learning and/ or build on concepts explored in the classroom.
- Students are generally not expected to complete more than 15 minutes of homework per day and homework tasks will not be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Years 3 and 4

In the Middle School, the objective of homework is to further develop the concepts of self-discipline and responsibility and prepare students for the Senior School.

- Students are expected to read daily to, with, or by parents/ carers, or independently to themselves.
- Assigned homework tasks will activate prior learning and/ or build on concepts explored in the classroom.
- Students are generally not expected to complete more than 20 minutes of homework per day and homework tasks will not be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Years 5 and 6

In the Senior School, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school.

- Students are expected to read daily to, with, or by parents/ carers, or independently to themselves.
- Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading, and may include tasks, which activate prior learning and/ or build on concepts explored in the classroom.
- Students are generally not expected to spend more than 30 minutes per day on homework and homework tasks will not 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.

Mt Eliza Primary School will support students by:

- fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools
- ensuring the School's Homework Policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and be informed about the Homework Policy through the school website
- encouraging parents/carers of primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment.

Teachers can support students by:

- equipping students with the skills to solve problems
- encouraging real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- assessing homework and providing timely and practical feedback and support
- helping students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensuring parents/carers are aware of the School's Homework Policy
- developing strategies within the school to support parents/carers becoming active partners in homework
- acknowledging students' effort to complete homework with positive reinforcement.
- set homework that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and stage/age
- ensuring homework tasks are purposeful
- ensuring the amount of homework set supports a student to engage with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities outside of school hours
- offering opportunities, where appropriate, for families to engage in their children's learning.

Parents and caregivers can support their child by:

- encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
- observing and acknowledging their success and asking how their home and class work is progressing
- helping them to complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources
- contacting the class teacher to discuss any problems their child is experiencing in order to complete set homework
- encouraging their child to set aside a regular daily session to read and complete homework
- developing a positive and productive approach to homework



- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- attending the school events, productions or displays in which their child is involved
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community groups.
- ensuring there is a quiet/appropriate study area for their child to complete homework

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- reading daily
- being aware of the School's Homework Policy
- discussing with their parents/caregivers homework expectations
- 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.

Support for students and parents/carers

Mt Eliza 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 handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff meetings/briefings as required
- Made available publicly on our school website
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

Related Policies and Resources

- [Homework - DE Policy](#)

Policy Review and Renewal

Policy last reviewed	31/7/23
Approved by	Principal, Kim Wheeler 
Next scheduled review date	12/5/27

