Homework Policy

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Westgrove Primary School on 9749 8233 or westgrove.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

PURPOSE

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

RATIONALE

Westgrove 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
- 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 Westgrove 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 Westgrove Primary School will include are:

Foundation:

- Reading with parents for 10 minutes daily (Take Home texts & Independent choice)

Year 1-2

- Reading with parents for 15 minutes daily (Take Home texts & Independent choice)

Year 3-4

- Reading with parents for 20 minutes daily (Take Home texts & Independent choice)

Year 5-6

- Independent reading for 30 minutes daily (Take Home texts & Independent choice)

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It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities, research projects and individualised tasks as additional homework tasks.

- Research tasks should take into account the availability of resources.
- Homework may include unfinished class work.
- Individualised tasks will be decided at the departmental level.

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 Westgrove 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 Westgrove Primary School** are to:

- ensure homework tasks are purposeful and appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- monitor reading routines 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/carers 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
- 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** 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.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Westgrove 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.

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COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website https://www.westgrps.vic.edu.au/policies
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Homework – Department Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	November 2026
Consultation	School Council – Education Policy Sub Committee
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	November 2029