



ASCOT VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

Approval by SC not required - updated 14th September, 2020

PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department of education and Training Victoria's and Ascot Vale Primary School's policy requirements relating to homework.

DEFINITIONS

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

SCOPE

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

RATIONALE

Ascot Vale Primary School has developed this Homework Policy 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

POLICY

At Ascot Vale 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 Ascot Vale Primary School may include are:

All Year Levels:

- Reading for pleasure (to, with and by the child)
- Encouraging organisational skills and time management to prepare for the day, including completing household tasks and routines.
- Encouraging play, exploration, hobbies or home projects (e.g., cooking or gardening).

- Encouraging mindfulness and practising gratitude.

Year Levels: Prep, 1 & 2

- Levelled reading and word lists to learn (reading, writing and spelling).
- Encourage the development of play based or real life numeracy skills.

Year levels: 3, 4, 5 & 6

- Nightly reading and/or reading texts in preparation for classroom focus.
- Open ended maths activities and/or online numeracy tasks
- Writer's notebook, collection of mementos and experiences to enhance the writing process.
- Practising individualised spelling words and a focus on vocabulary development.
- Project based learning that enhances and consolidates classroom learning. This may include a focus on science and/or the preparation of oral presentations on a variety of topics.
- Engaging with parents in learning activities, e.g. surveying them, seeking feedback, rehearsing a presentation.

Year levels: 5 & 6

- Use of iPads to complete tasks e.g. photography skills, make instructional videos, research
- Term challenges with a focus on literacy, science or maths

Specialist

- Encourage the practice of physical activity, visual arts, performing arts and exploring languages for pleasure.
- Optional supplementary activities (Art, Japanese, Music & PE) via a virtual classroom linked to termly units of work.

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 Ascot Vale 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 **teaching teams at Ascot Vale Primary School** are to:

- set consistent homework tasks across year level Professional Learning Teams 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

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Ascot Vale 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](#)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on September 2020 and is scheduled for review in September 2022
This policy does not require school council approval.