



## PARK ORCHARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Policy and Procedures: Homework

#### 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff Park Orchards Primary School (P.O.P.S) expectations for homework and at-home learning.

#### 2. IMPLEMENTATION

P.O.P.S acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.

Teachers at P.O.P.S are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful. This may comprise of reading, math practice exercises or speaking and listening tasks or projects.

#### **FOUNDATION TO YEAR 4:**

In the early years, 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 them for the upper grades. Homework will **generally not exceed 30 minutes a day** and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekend or during the holidays.

#### **Homework will mainly consist of:**

- daily reading with an adult
- practising skills – such as spelling or numeracy tasks
- gathering information or preparing a speech to support classroom learning

#### **YEARS 5 AND 6:**

In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school. Students are **generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes a day** on homework and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

#### **Homework will mainly consist of:**

- daily independent reading
- extension of class learning which may include; practising skills, researching, completing projects and assignments
- gathering information or preparing a speech to support classroom learning
- unfinished class 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.

### **P.O.P.S 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 and procedures is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year
- encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment
- ensuring that upper primary students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

### **Teachers at P.O.P.S will:**

- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy and procedure
- develop strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework.

### **It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own learning by:**

- discussing with their parents/carers 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.

### **It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by:**

- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- ensuring upper primary students keep a homework diary
- 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

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

Teachers at P.O.P.S understand that students have different learning styles and interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set for him or her or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage you to speak to their teacher or the Assistant Principal/Principal.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
  - [Homework Guidelines](#)
  - [Homework Expectations](#)

## **3. EVALUATION**

- This policy will be reviewed within a four-year review cycle.

This policy was ratified by School Council on...

**Nov 2018**