



# Bentleigh West Primary School

## HOMEWORK POLICY

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff Bentleigh West Primary School's expectations for homework.

### Scope

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting homework.

### Policy

Bentleigh West Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.

Teachers at Bentleigh West Primary School 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, Mathematics and, skill practise eg. spelling rules, building background knowledge and vocabulary. Homework expectations are different for different year levels.

### Prep 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.

Assigned homework tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials.

Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/carer or older siblings, basic maths skills practise and directed research.

### Year 5 to Year 6

In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to practise and consolidate concepts and build responsibility and time management skills to prepare students for secondary school.

Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading and may include extension assignments, class work, essays and research.

### 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.

Bentleigh West 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 school's curriculum
- 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 providing them with a copy of the homework policy
- encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment

Teachers at Bentleigh West Primary School will:

- equip students with the skills to solve problems
- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- set meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- develop strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework
- offer a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children.

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

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing with their parents/carers homework expectations
- 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
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks.

### **Support for students, parents and carers**

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.

## Further information and resources

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

## Review Cycle

This policy was last updated in December 2018 and is scheduled for review in December 2022.

