



Homework Policy

2020 -2023

Teamwork – Honesty – Respect – Belonging

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and St Albans Heights 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 St Albans Heights Primary School.

Rationale

St Albans Heights 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.

Definitions

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

Policy

At St Albans Heights 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 St Albans Heights Primary School may include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completing short tasks for mathematics • researching topics associated with set class work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reading sight words • practising writing skills • regular reading to improve reading goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making or designing an artwork • practising sports skills • practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English (Japanese)
<p>Applying new skills to home context such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ planning and cooking food, including following a recipe ○ helping to plan a day trip or holiday, including timings, directions and costs ○ growing plants ○ reviewing their favourite film or book 	<p>Engaging with parents in learning activities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ rehearsing a presentation with parent/carers, and seeking their feedback ○ interviewing a family member as part of a research project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing tasks directly related to their Independent Learning Plans

Shared Expectation 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.

Years	Homework Type	Time
F-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings. • May involve simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities and gathering of additional information or materials. 	<p>15-20 minutes each night</p> <p>10 minutes reading + 10 minutes other</p>
3-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should include daily independent reading • May extend class work, projects and assignments, essays and research. 	<p>40 minutes each night</p> <p>20 minutes reading + 20 minutes other</p> <p>May be set on weekends or school holidays</p>

Responsibilities and expectations for teachers at St Albans Heights Primary School are to:

- set homework 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
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback
- 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, 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

St Albans Heights 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 are spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child's teacher.

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on October 26th 2020 and is scheduled for review in October 2023.