

Homework Policy



Deanside
Primary School

HOMWORK POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the Business Manager.

Purpose

Homework is seen as a positive way to reinforce school learning and to develop home learning habits that will help students throughout their education and later life.

Scope

Prep to Year 4

- In the early years, the objective of Homework will 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 Home Learning grids will build on concepts explored in the classroom and encourage students to engage in learning beyond the classroom
- Students are not expected to complete more than 30 minutes of Homework per day, and homework will consist mainly of reading.

Year 5 to Year 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.
- Assigned Home Learning grids will include daily independent reading as well as tasks which consolidate learning in the classroom.
- Students are not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on Homework. Homework will consist mainly of reading.

Rationale

Deanside 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
- providing opportunities for students to apply and consolidate 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.

Learning Grids are the way homework tasks will be organised, which gives students choice in the task they complete for homework.

Policy

At Deanside 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.

Homework Outline

Year Level	
Prep – Year 2	<p>Reading: EVERYDAY Up to 15 minutes to, with and by an adult from a range of books including Just Right books and interest books from school, Reading Eggs and independently selected books from home or local library.</p> <p>Homework Grid: A Homework Grid will be provided 3 times per term with activities that reinforce the learning taking place at school in literacy (writing, reading and spelling), numeracy, inquiry, wellbeing and personal learning.</p> <p>At P-2 level, we expect students to complete a minimum of 2- 3 activities per each grid.</p> <p>Targeted Practise: Handwriting sheets will be available for children to practise their letter and numeral formation when necessary or upon request. Reading Eggs and Sunset maths log in will be provided to all students.</p>
Year 3/4	<p>Reading: EVERYDAY Up to 30 minutes to, with and by an adult from a range of books including Just Right books and interest books from school, and independently selected books from home or local library.</p> <p>Homework Grid: A Homework Grid will be provided 3 times per term with activities that reinforce the learning taking place at school in literacy (writing, reading and spelling), numeracy, inquiry, wellbeing and personal learning.</p> <p>At 3-4 level we expect students to complete a minimum of 4 activities per each grid.</p> <p>Targeted Practise: Take-home kits, games or worksheets will be available when necessary to develop mastery of specific skills such as times tables, basic number facts, spelling or letter formation. Reading Eggs and Sunset Maths log-ins will be provided to all students.</p>
Year 5/6	<p>Reading: Up to 30 minutes to, with and by an adult from a range of books including Just Right books and interest books from school, and independently selected books from home or local library.</p> <p>Homework Grid: A Homework Grid will be provided 3 times per term with activities that reinforce the learning taking place at school in literacy (writing, reading and spelling), numeracy, inquiry, wellbeing and personal learning.</p> <p>At 5-6 level we expect students to complete a minimum of 6 activities per grid unless otherwise specified by teacher.</p> <p>Project Work: Throughout the year, teachers may assign project work that is completed over a period time to support school learning</p>

and/or to develop skills that will be required as student's progress in their education.

Targeted Practise: Take-home kits, games or worksheets will be available when necessary to develop mastery of specific skills such as times tables, basic number facts, spelling or letter formation. Reading Eggs and Sunset Maths log-ins will be provided to all students.

We have a strong expectation that students read EVERY day. All research suggests, the more students read, the more language, vocabulary and understanding they are exposed to. This assists in higher levels of understanding and comprehension, as well as transfer into writing, and speaking and listening. Teachers will ensure they are providing students with opportunities to borrow books for interest, to continue to build positive habits and attitudes towards reading.

21st Century Learning

At Deanside Primary School, we believe in the integration of 21st century digital skills and learning. We will ensure we provide all students with the opportunities to engage with content online (Reading eggs, Sunset Maths), and support students with being able to create content online (using online tools such as; scratch, coding, book creator, and many more).

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 Deanside Primary School** are to:

- ensure homework expectations are shared with teachers, students and parents/carers at the beginning of the school year and provide them with access to the homework policy.
- Add homework timelines to school's backward plans to ensure consistency across the school.

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers at Deanside Primary School** are to:

- set homework that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age.
- provide log-in details for Reading eggs and Sunset Maths.
- Implement a Reading Record and tracking system to ensure students are reading everyday, and follow up with families and students.
- distribute homework grids each **Tuesday** in weeks 2, 5 and 8 each term.
- view and sign homework fortnightly (collect homework book each **Thursday** in weeks 4, 7 and 10). Cycle through student feedback during the term.
- ensure homework grids 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)
- 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
- keep a tidy and organised homework book/folder.
- Keep a record of their daily reading in their reading logs/diaries.
- 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.

Timeline Per Term

Teachers and students will adhere to the timeline below each term:

Teachers to hand out homework on:	Tuesday Week 2	Tuesday Week 5	Tuesday Week 8
Students to hand back homework on:	Thursday Week 4	Thursday Week 7	Thursday Week 10

Support for Students and Parents/Carers

Deanside 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.

Communication

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

- Available publicly on our school's website (or insert other online parent/carer/student communication method)
- Included in staff handbook
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Added to the School's Termly Backward Plan
- Discussed at annual staff meetings for consultation
- 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

Consultation with School Council

Version	Date Created	Date Ratified at School Council (if required)	Revisions Made	Leader of Policy	Next Policy Review
1	November 2021		Creation of policy in alignment with DET Guidelines	Lina Stephens	August 2024

Date: 01/11/21

Date for review: 01/11/22