



HOMEWORK POLICY Kinglake West Primary School		
Policy Implementation Date 6/5/2022	Review Date 1st December, 2025	Responsible for Review Education Committee

Rationale:

At Kinglake West Primary School, we believe that homework provides opportunities to practise skills, review content or deepen understanding of concepts learned. Homework can also assist students to develop self-regulation processes such as goal setting, time management and study skills which will assist them as life-long learners. Homework can also support school-home relationships through connecting families with the learning of their children.

We believe that the setting of homework needs to take into consideration the need for our students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes adequate time for sporting, recreation, cultural and family events.

At Kinglake West Primary School, we expect that regular home reading will form a part of the student's daily routine across all year levels and is considered an essential part of their homework routine.

This policy is based on key educational research by:

John Hattie (2009) –

- *Task orientated homework, such as rehearsal of basic skills, had higher effect than homework requiring deep learning or problem solving. Effects were also higher when homework was not complex.*
- *Parent support for homework has a positive effect on achievement, whereas direct instruction by parents can have the opposite*
- *A large amount of homework tends to lower student achievement*

KWPS acknowledges that:

- Homework benefits students by complementing the teaching and learning within the classroom
- Homework may help to develop a routine for students and self-motivated working patterns
- Homework promotes parental engagement with student learning

Purpose:

This document stipulates the school's policy for setting homework and expectations regarding homework for different year levels.

Guidelines for Implementation:

The Victorian Department of Education and Training does not have a direct role in the development or enforcement of homework policies. It does require schools to:

- Have a homework policy and communicate it to staff, parents/carers and students
- Have a homework policy that is evidence-informed and comprehensive, and must be developed with the school community

At Kinglake West Primary School, homework can be completed daily or over a weekly period.

At Kinglake West primary School, homework may include, but is not limited to the following guidelines:

Year Level	Homework Type
Prep to Grade 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/carers or siblings.• There may be opportunities where students are provided with simple tasks associated with classroom learning.• As per DET guidelines, P-2 students set homework will not exceed 60 minutes per week. Homework exceeding 15 minutes per day becomes unproductive.
Years 3 - 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homework should include the weekly independent reading tasks as recommended by the classroom teacher.• Homework may also include literacy and/or numeracy tasks to complement and reinforce classroom learning.• As per DET guidelines, 3-6 students set homework will not exceed 120 minutes per week. Homework exceeding 30 minutes per day becomes unproductive.

Shared Responsibilities and Expectations:

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. It is important that everyone understands the responsibilities and expectations in setting, completing, monitoring and responding to homework.

Kinglake West Primary School will strive to ensure that homework supports students by:

- Fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children
- Ensuring the school's homework policy is relevant to the needs of students
- Providing parents/carers access to the current policy via the school website
- Encouraging parents/carers of early years students to read to and with their children for enjoyment and to use the student diaries as a way of communicating with the teachers
- Providing opportunities for upper primary students to use their diaries to provide communication between parents and the school

Responsibilities of Teachers:

- Be aware of the school's homework policy and ensure it is implemented and followed
- Ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- Clearly communicate homework expectations at the beginning of each year
- Ensure that the homework set is understood by students
- Set varied and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs and year level
- Give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- Provide timely and practical feedback and support
- Help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- Be mindful of circumstances that may prevent a child from completing homework tasks
- Be aware of and provide flexible options for students to cater for varied access to resources and technology
- Offer opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning
- *Teachers are not required to set homework over holiday periods or at times where students are taken on in-term vacation breaks*

Responsibilities of Students:

- Discussing homework expectations with their teachers, parents/carers
- Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within the set time frames
- Demonstrate responsibility by caring for materials required to complete homework, such as books and stationery
- 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, and recreational and cultural activities

Responsibilities of Parents/Carers:

- Be aware of and support the school's homework policy
- Develop a positive and productive approach to homework
- Support and ensure that there is a balance between time allocated to homework and recreational activities
- Support their child/children to develop an age-appropriate level of independence in completing homework
- Contact the relevant teacher/s to discuss any concerns about homework
- Supervise any 'eLearning', including ICT tools and usage