



We are respectful, responsible, safe learners

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HOMework POLICY

PURPOSE

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

RATIONALE

St Leonards Primary School has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the school council to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers
- complementing and reinforcing classroom learning
- providing an opportunity for students to become responsible for their own learning
- developing self-regulation processes such as goal-setting, self-efficacy, self-reflection and time management

DEFINITIONS

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

POLICY

At St Leonards 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.

Reading is the most important Homework task.

For younger students – Daily reading to, with and by parents/carers or older siblings.

For older students – Daily independent reading

At primary school level 20-30 minutes is ample time to spend on homework.

Homework should not be a stressful time for children or parents/carers.

The types of homework that teachers at St Leonards Primary School will include are:

- Practicing and learning spelling words
- Researching information for class investigations
- Practicing and learning number facts – e.g. multiplication tables
- making or designing an artwork
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English
- applying new skills to home context such as:
 - 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
 - writing a diary entry
- engaging with parents in learning activities such as:
 - rehearsing a presentation with parent/carers, and seeking their feedback
 - interviewing a family member as part of a research project.

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 St Leonards Primary School** are to:

- advise teachers, students and parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with access to the homework policy.

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers at St Leonards 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 (so, they are not 'busy work' or where students 'finish off' work they did/could not complete in class)
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback
- 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:

- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise

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

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

St Leonards 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.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated in August 2020 and is scheduled for review in August 2024.