



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office or the Principal.

## PURPOSE

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

## RATIONALE

Sherbourne 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 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 Sherbourne Primary School all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- appropriate to students' skill level and age
- designed to help students develop as independent learners
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

## 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.

## 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 homework tasks will include daily independent reading and may include continuation of class work, projects and assignments
- Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Class teachers will specify the expectations for their class at the start of the year.

Negotiation of expectations can take place between the teacher and their family to best fit their context and the child's learning needs.

Where students work privately with tutors or complete any form of therapy out of school hours requiring follow up exercises, they are strongly encouraged to communicate with their class teacher. This will enable consistency of focus and manage an appropriate expectation for their child.

## 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 Sherbourne 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 Sherbourne Primary School** are to:

- offer their students and families the opportunity to practise and develop their skills and offer families the opportunity to engage in their children's learning.

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- understanding and meeting the expectations of homework for their class
- seeking assistance when needed.

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are:

- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

## **SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS**

Sherbourne 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:

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff information on shared drive
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- 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**

Policy last reviewed	May 2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	May 2026