

POLICY TITLE: Homework
DATE DEVELOPED: December 2022
REVIEW DATE: December 2026

ENPS MISSION: We maximise the potential of all; empowering independence, excellence, innovation and engagement with the world.

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| Critical Engagement with the World | Academic Excellence | Inclusive Learning Environment | Personal and Social Wellbeing |
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PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department of Education and Training (DET) and Essendon North 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 Essendon North Primary School.

RATIONALE

Essendon North 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 Essendon North 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 Essendon North Primary School will include are:

- reading texts and recording
- reading particular texts prior to class discussion
- reading for pleasure
- researching topics associated with set class work
- practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English
- practising spelling words
- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- completing science investigation exercises
- making or designing an artwork
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising sports skills
- 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.

| <u>Year Level</u> | <u>Homework Learning Experiences</u> |
|----------------------|---|
| Foundation to Year 4 | At ENPS we believe homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● should be a positive experience. ● enables the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials. ● can utilise Mathletics, My Numeracy, My Literacy, Reading Eggs/Eggspress, Epic!, Storyline Online, BrainPOP and other platforms endorsed by our school. ● will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings. ● will generally not exceed 30 minutes a day or be set on weekends or during school holiday periods. |
| Year 5 and Year 6 | At ENPS we believe homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● should be a positive experience. ● should include daily reading experiences, with a combination of independent and shared reading experiences. ● can utilise Mathletics, My Numeracy, My Literacy, Reading Eggs/Eggspress, Epic!, Storyline Online, BrainPOP and other platforms endorsed by our school. ● enables the extension of class work, projects and research. ● will generally range from 30 to 45 minutes a day. |

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 Essendon North 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 Essendon North 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
- 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
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities.

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
- discuss homework connections 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

Essendon North 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 staff in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in our staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Included as annual reference in school newsletter
- Discussed at student forums/through communication tools
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS



If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Essendon North Primary School on (03) 9379 3979.

RELATED POLICIES

Department's Policy and Advisory Library:

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)
- [Acceptable Use Policy for ICT Resources](#)
- [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Digital Technologies](#)
- [Digital Learning in Schools](#) and
- [Social Media Use to Support Student Learning](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

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| Policy Last Reviewed | December 2022 |
| Approved By | Kate Barletta |
| Next Scheduled Review Date | December 2026 |