

Mount Evelyn Primary School

School Policies Manual



Home Learning Policy

Rationale:

Home Learning benefits students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Home Learning creates a partnership between parents, students and teachers.

Aim:

- To support and extend classroom learning.
- The development of self-discipline along with sound and independent study habits.
- Home learning serves as a link between school and home.
- Through the provision of appropriate home learning activities, student learning can be extended and consolidated.
- Home learning emphasises that there are many sources of education; school being only one of these.

Implementation:

Teacher responsibilities:

- Parents should be advised of home learning expectations at the beginning of the school year and be provided with a copy of the school's home learning policy.
- Home learning tasks should be:
 - appropriate to the child's skill level, age, and should be manageable with a minimum of assistance.
 - interesting, challenging and where appropriate, open ended.
 - balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities.
 - purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum.
 - assessed by teachers with timely feedback and support provided.
- Should teachers have concerns regarding home learning performance, contact will be made with parents. Teacher feedback on completed activities is integral to the success of this process.
- It is important for teachers to inform parents and students regularly of the expectations and due dates for projects and home learning activities.
- Home learning activities will be negotiated with the students, with purpose and expectations clearly explained.

Parental responsibilities:

It is the family's responsibility to organise their week to accommodate school home learning requirements and balance this with the student's extra-curricular and leisure time activities.

Parents should encourage their children to establish good home learning patterns from early primary school by:

- providing an appropriate study area.
- observing and acknowledging their successes and taking an active interest in their children's home and class work.
- contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any problems their children are having with tasks.
- helping them to complete tasks by discussing key questions or directing them to resources.
- helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing tasks, watching television, playing computer games and engaging in other leisure or recreational activities.

Student Responsibilities:

- Home learning tasks should be submitted on time.
- Any concerns or issues should be discussed with parents and/or the teacher.
- Students should pack their own bags in preparation for the following day and return all books and tasks as required.

In the Early Years (Foundation – 4)

Completing home learning activities should be a positive family experience. It can foster a sense of self-discipline and responsibility and prepare students for more senior classes. Homework at this level may include:

- extension of class work by practising skills, words or gathering extra information or materials in an enjoyable way.
- reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or older siblings. Reading for enjoyment is encouraged at all times.
- the completion of unfinished classroom tasks

In the Middle Years (Levels 5-6)

Completing home learning activities should continue to be a positive family experience. It can foster a sense of self-discipline and responsibility and prepare students for secondary school. Homework at this level may include:

- daily independent reading. Reading for enjoyment is encouraged at all times.
- may include extension of class work, projects and assignments, essays and research.
- teachers may assign unfinished classroom activities as home learning tasks.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on: September 9th, 2017