

Homework Policy



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

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

PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Preston North East 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 Preston North-East Primary School.

RATIONALE

Preston North-East 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 Preston North-East 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.

Preston North East Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.

Teachers at Preston North-East Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful. This may comprise of reading, practice exercises or extension assignments.

Prep to Year 4

In the early years, the objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate the foundational skills and concepts that have been introduced during class time. Homework mainly consists of daily reading to an adult at home.

Years 5 and 6

In Years 5 and 6, the objective of homework is to build students' self-discipline, responsibility and initiative and to prepare students for the increased academic demands of secondary school. Homework consists of daily reading and writing a response in a home-reading diary and using Mathletics.

The types of homework at Preston North-East Primary School may include:

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics using Mathletics
- practising spelling words
- reading for pleasure
- consolidating reading skills using Reading Eggs
- researching topics associated with class work
- applying new skills to home context such as following a recipe or reviewing a favourite film or book
- engaging with parents in learning activities such as rehearsing a presentation and seeking feedback, or interviewing a family member as part of a research project.

Homework is usually 10-15 minutes per day for Foundation students, and up to 30 minutes for older students. It is rarely assigned over weekends or school holidays.

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 Preston North-East 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 Preston North-East 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:

- 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
- 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, 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
- in dialogue, linking homework 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

Preston North-East 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 handbook/manual
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information sessions
- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	July 2026
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	July 2030

