



## Home Learning Policy



### Help for non-English speakers

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

### PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Aitken Creek Primary School's expectations relating to home learning.

This policy aims to:

- support, reinforce and extend classroom learning.
- develop positive study habits.
- develop a responsibility for self-learning.
- strengthen the home-school relationship

### RATIONALE

Home learning benefits students by:

- complementing classroom learning
- 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
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers.
- fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning

In recognition that families are busy and have after school commitments we encourage parents to communicate with their child's classroom teacher if home learning expectations cannot be met.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Aitken Creek Primary School.

## POLICY

Aitken Creek Primary School acknowledges that homework should be interesting, challenging and where appropriate, open-ended.

At Aitken Creek 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
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

The school's home learning policy will be distributed to parents at the commencement of each school year.

If parents feel that their child's home learning is excessive, they can contact their child's teacher to make alternative arrangements.

Teachers at Aitken Creek Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students.

### **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 may consist of:

- reading activities to, with, or by parents/carer or older siblings
- simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities and projects
- gathering of additional information or materials for school use
- online learning

Students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 minutes of homework per day. It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as additional homework tasks.

### **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.

Homework may consist of:

- independent reading on a daily basis
- tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects
- gathering of additional information or materials for school use
- online learning

Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework. It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as additional homework tasks.

### **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.

Teachers at Aitken Creek Primary School will:

- equip students with the skills to solve problems
- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- provide timely and practical feedback

It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing with their parents/carers homework expectations
- 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

It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- attending school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks.

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

Aitken Creek 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
- Reminder sent annually via Compass
- Discussed as needed at staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at with students in classrooms
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## REVIEW CYCLE

Policy last reviewed	December 2023
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	December 2026