



# MOSSFIEL PRIMARY SCHOOL

## HOMEWORK POLICY



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact the Mossfiel Primary School office in person or on 9749 1227.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff Mossfiel Primary School's expectations for homework and at-home learning.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting homework.

## POLICY

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

Teachers at Mossfiel 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 reading, practice exercises or extension assignments.

Homework is another opportunity for parents to participate in their child's education. Parents, in partnership with the school, should encourage their children to establish good homework patterns from early primary school.

Students benefit from completing homework regularly. Homework helps them develop organisational and time-management skills, self discipline, skills in using out-of-school resources and personal responsibility for 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.

Students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

### 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 extension assignments,

class work, essays and research. Homework may also include completing work not finished in a reasonable time in class.

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This will generally range from 20 – 45 minutes a day at Year 5 and 6. Students are generally not expected to spend more than that time per day on homework and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the 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.

Mossfiel Primary School will support students by:

- fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools.
- ensuring the school's homework policy is relevant to the needs of students.
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and providing them with a copy of the homework policy.
- encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment.
- ensuring that upper primary students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Teachers at Mossfiel 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
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- develop strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework
- offer a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children.

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
- 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 and part-time employment.

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 the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in

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- ensuring upper primary students keep a homework diary
- 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, parents and carers

Teachers at Mossfiel Primary School understand that students have different learning styles and interests, and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set for him or her, or they are spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage you to speak to either the Instructional Leader and or Team Leader of your child's year level.

Mossfiel Primary School has in place a number of learning programs that students may attend during lunchtimes to assist with particular areas of need or interest, including:

- Lego Club in the Performing Arts room on Wednesdays at lunchtime
- ICT Club in ELC room once a week at lunchtime for both the Upper and Lower students

Students may be referred to programs by their teacher in consultation with their parents/carers. For more information about these programs, please contact Mossfiel Primary School.

### FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
  - [Homework Guidelines](#)
  - [Homework Expectations](#)

### REVIEW CYCLE

School/VRQA/Department	Approval Process	Last Updated	Review Cycle	Scheduled for Review
Department	Not Required	May 2020	3 years	Nov 2023

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