



HOMEWORK POLICY

BLACKBURN LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL

12 - 14 Florence Street Blackburn 3130

PURPOSE

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

SCOPE

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

POLICY

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

Teachers at BLPS 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 and practice exercises.

Foundation (Prep) to Year 4

In the early years, the objective of homework should be to practice and consolidate concepts introduced during class time. It is also intended to introduce the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and prepare students for senior primary school years.

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/carers 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 weekends or during school holidays. Homework tasks are expected to be completed throughout the given period.

Year 5 to Year 6

In the senior 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, but not limited to class work, essays and research.

Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework and no homework tasks will be assigned over weekends or during 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.

BLPS 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 senior primary students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Teachers at BLPS will:

- equip students with the skills to solve problems
- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- set 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
- develop strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework

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 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
- support 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
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, clubs, associations and community

Support for students, parents and carers

Teachers at BLPS 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 them, or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage you to speak to your child's class 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 nights/sessions

- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

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

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August 2023
Approved by	Principal David Dowson
Next scheduled review date	November 2024