

Park Ridge Primary School Home Learning Policy September, 2023

Rationale

As part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools, home learning is seen as supporting students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering lifelong learning and effective study habits, connecting families with the learning of their children and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

By establishing guidelines for the administration of level-appropriate home learning to students, and the different types of home learning that may be undertaken, a clear understanding of home learning expectations can be established.

Aim

- To ensure Park Ridge Primary School develops a home learning policy in consultation with the school community (including the Principal, teachers, school council, parents/carers and students)
- To ensure assigned home learning tasks take into account the personal and developmental needs of students
- To ensure the setting of home learning takes into consideration the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, sport and recreation, cultural pursuits where appropriate
- To ensure the school's home learning policy is communicated to all students, parents/carers
- To ensure assigned home learning activities relate to what is taught in the classroom/curriculum-aligned
- To ensure an element of challenge is included in home learning tasks
- To ensure home learning activities are aligned with individualised learning styles and abilities
- To ensure home learning tasks are provided prompt and appropriate assessment and feedback

Implementation

- Park Ridge Primary School's philosophical stance on the role of home learning reflects the Department of Education's position that home learning is a part of the curriculum and student learning within schools as it helps:
 - support students by preparing them for future learning and complementing and reinforcing current classroom learning
 - foster lifelong learning and effective study habits which will prepare them for the home learning demands of secondary schooling
 - connect families with the learning of their children, and
 - provide an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning
- We view home learning as an important part of the learning process, particularly in supporting the development of core Literacy and Numeracy skills and preparing for future learning
- The primary focus of home learning is to develop Literacy and Numeracy skills fundamental to supporting student learning growth, including but not limited to, nightly reading and the application of reading strategies, learning to spell the most commonly used words and learning number sense activities
- The inclusion of pre-learning activities as home learning, provides the opportunity for students to familiarise themselves with content and subject matter, prior to the exploration of topics

in class, to enable them to bring a minimum level of prior knowledge to the unit of work and support their learning

- All students will be provided online learning subscriptions as required
- The non-completion of home learning tasks will not result in punitive measures, therefore all students, including those deemed to be at risk, will not be reprimanded for incomplete or un-submitted homework
- Students with Individual Learning Plans and those who participate in Intervention and Support programs across the school may have specific home learning tasks recommended to support their individual learning. The completion of these tasks is recommended to be prioritised over class-based home learning activities as they are designed to meet the specific learning needs of these children
- Home learning tasks will not be set for school holiday periods unless arrangements have been made between the classroom teacher and parent/carer with the specific objective of supporting an individual child's learning
- Expectations for home learning will be published to all parents at the beginning of each school year via the *How to help your child learn* booklets produced by each year level team
- The school's Home Learning Policy will be published on the school website and updated in a timely manner to reflect any adjustments made to the school's philosophy and/or approach to home learning

Time Allowed for the Completion of Home Learning

- Prep to Year 2 - Home learning will generally not exceed 20 minutes per day, over a 5-day period
- Year 3 and 4 - Home learning will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day, over a 5-day period
- Year 5 and 6 - Home learning will generally not exceed 40 minutes per day, over a 5-day period

The Role of Students

- To be aware of the school's home learning policy
- To discuss with their parents or carers home learning expectations
- To be responsible for bringing home set work and then completing and submitting it by the due date
- To organise resources to successfully complete the majority of home learning without outside assistance
- To keep a record of home reading
- To seek assistance with their home learning when difficulties arise
- To follow up on feedback given by teachers
- To establish own routines and organise their time to manage extra-curricular activities
- To take pride with presentation of completed work

The Role of Teachers

- To ensure that home learning is regular, thoroughly planned, linked closely to future and current class work and addresses individual needs
- To explain home learning to students and parents/carers with clear expectations and purpose
- To ensure that home learning is varied, challenging and meaningful and modified to meet student learning needs
- To ensure home learning involves real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- To set clear and consistent home learning standards between classes at each year level
- To help students develop the organisational and time-management skills needed for them to be responsible for their own learning
- To set achievable goals, allowing adequate time to complete tasks and being mindful of

extra-curricular activities and DET Year Level time expectations

- To provide timely feedback through correction, explanation, positive comments and motivation
- To clearly communicate with parents/carers about the school's home learning policy and home learning requirements
- To assist individual students when required

The Role of Parents/Carers

- To provide appropriate work space, environment and equipment to allow for completion of home learning
- To assist in establishing a routine that takes into consideration the balance between home learning and extra-curricular activities
- To encourage a positive attitude to learning through guidance, involvement and support
- To liaise with class teachers and encourage students to seek help themselves
- To discuss home learning with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences
- To read to their child/ren, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- To link home learning and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language and to relevant services, clubs, associations and community groups
- To ensure your child keeps a record of their home reading in their diary
- To attend Parent Education/Information evenings and other school events, productions or displays in which their child is involved

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-yearly policy review process.

Policy:	Home Learning		
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