



HOMEWORK

POLICY

PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Richmond Primary School's (RPS) policy requirements relating to homework.

SCOPE

This Homework Policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at RPS.

RATIONALE

At RPS we acknowledge that learning doesn't just happen at school. Homework helps students with their education by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits whilst providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. Homework is also an opportunity for parents, guardians and families to participate in their children's education. RPS sets home learning tasks that supports educational requirements and recognises that homework should be balanced with children's after school activities and family commitments.

RPS 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; and
- 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 RPS 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; and
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

The types of homework that teachers at RPS will include are:

Foundation

- will progressively increase in duration of time, and is typically less than 20 minutes per day;
- will include daily independent reading, reading to, with, or by significant family/carers;
- can include extension of class work and practise of skills, particularly with basic maths skills; and
- may include collecting and presenting items of information.

Years 1/2

- is typically less than 20 minutes per day;
- will include daily independent reading, reading to, with, or by significant family/carers;
- can include extension or completion of class work and practise of skills, particularly targeted maths skills; and
- may include collecting and presenting items of information for Inquiry units.

Years 3/4

- is typically less than 30 minutes per day;
- will include daily independent reading;
- will include regular practise of maths skills; and
- can include extension or completion of class work, Inquiry based projects including basic research.

Years 5/6

- is typically less than 45 minutes per day;
- will include daily independent reading and regular practise of maths skills; and
- can include extension or completion of class work, Inquiry based projects including basic research or gathering of extra materials and resources.

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 RPS** 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 RPS** 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);
- provide Individual Education Plans (IEPs) for students achieving well below or well above the expected Grade level, including advice and tasks that will enable parents to help their child at home;
- 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; and
- offer opportunities for families to engage in their children’s learning.

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers;
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames;
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise; and
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment (for older students).

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are:

- develop a positive and productive approach to homework tasks by celebrating your child’s successes and achievement;
- encourage a regular daily time to complete homework tasks;
- 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); and
 - relevant services, clubs, associations and community; and
- providing a quiet and comfortable study area for their child to complete homework.

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 communications
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

This policy was last updated in October 2021 and is scheduled for review in the school's next review cycle.