

PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Willmott Park Primary School policy requirements relating to homework.

SCOPE

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

RATIONALE

Willmott Park Primary School has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the teachers, students' and parents 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
- 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 Willmott Park 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 types of homework that teachers at Willmott Park Primary **may** include are:

- completing science investigation exercises
- making or designing an artwork
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising letter blends
- practising sports skills
- practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English
- reading English texts prior to class discussion
- reading for pleasure
- researching topics associated with set class work
- revising/preparing for tests
- applying new skills to home context such as:
 - planning and cooking food, including following a recipe
 - helping to plan a day trip or holiday, including timings, directions and costs
 - growing plants
 - reviewing their favourite film or book
 - writing a diary entry
- engaging with parents in learning activities such as:
 - rehearsing a presentation with parent/carers, and seeking their feedback
 - Interviewing a family member as part of a research project.

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 Willmott Park Primary School** 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 Willmott Park Primary School** are to:

- 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)
- be set when appropriate for the curriculum being learnt during the course of the school day
- ensure the amount of homework set supports a student to engage with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities outside of school hours
- ensure that there is a choice for students in tasks provided
- offer opportunities for families to engage in their children’s learning
- ensure that if homework tasks are allotted that it is communicated clearly to parents what they are and when they are required to be completed either by: Seesaw, Sentral, Newsletter or personal note.

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- being aware of the school’s Homework Policy
- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- 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
- reading will be a daily component of homework at all year levels and may include reading material provided by the school or interest material available at home.

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

- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- 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)
 - relevant services, clubs, associations and community.
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Willmott Park 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 are spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child’s teacher.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

HOMWORK AT WILLMOTT PARK

At Willmott, we believe if students maintain 100% commitment to their learning during the school day that daily/shared reading is the most paramount objective on a nightly basis. This will develop and sustain their love of language and literature. **Homework is a reinforcement of the skills already learnt in the classroom.**

Teachers at Willmott Park Primary will exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for either their individual students or level cohorts ***throughout the term and/or point of need.***

When teachers deem it necessary they may develop differentiated homework tasks for students who require either extension or support.

Teachers may provide additional recommendations to parents for their children to use, to support their learning at home.

Homework tasks will not be assigned over the weekends or during the holiday breaks.

YEAR Level	TIME per week	ACTIVITIES may Include:
Prep	10-15 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading/sharing take-home books. Every night.• Parents reading to children• Activities involving – cooking, shopping, family games or construction.• Show and Tell activities.• Use of technology such as learning websites may be required to support home learning.• Discussion of the day's activities – Have a chat!
1 and 2	15-20 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading; 10 mins (sharing readers and library books) Every night.• Collecting and presenting items or information for unit topics.• Simple projects, English/Maths activities, cooking, shopping, family games or construction.• Use of technology such as learning websites may be required to support home learning.• Discussion of the day's activities – Have a chat!• Specific inquiry tasks (eg finding/collecting information relevant to a class topic)
3 and 4	25 - 30 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading; 10-15 minutes. Every night.• Projects involving research, structure, thinking and creativity.• Review, practise and consolidation of number facts using the four processes.• Use of technology such as learning websites may be required to support home learning.• Discussion of the day's activities – Have a chat!• Specific inquiry tasks (eg finding/collecting information relevant to a class topic)
5 and 6	45 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consistent personal reading; 15-20 minutes. Every night.• Projects involving research, structure, thinking and creativity.• Review, practise and consolidation of number facts using the four processes.• Use of technology such as learning websites may be required to support home learning.• Discussion of the day's activities – Have a chat!• Specific inquiry tasks (eg finding/collecting information relevant to a class topic)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on February 19 2021 and is scheduled for review on October 2023