

Homework Policy

Date passed by School Council: 2017

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Rationale

At Elsternwick Primary School, we believe that regular homework opportunities support children in consolidating their learning. Balancing school life with time spent on extra-curricular activities, relaxation and time with family and friends is an essential part of maintaining a healthy sense of wellbeing.

Our philosophy has been created based on expert research and Departmental Guidelines (Department of Education and Training Victoria). We have also conducted forums with staff, parents, and students to gain an insight into their beliefs about what positive and effective homework practices look like. This extensive consultation process has helped us to create our Homework Guidelines, which we believe will support students, parents/carers and teachers with home learning practices.

The Department of Education and Training Guidelines recommends the following times for homework allocation. This is designed so that throughout their primary schooling, children are gradually building stamina and balanced homework studying habits.

Year 1 to Year Four: 30 minutes each night

Year Five and Six: 30-45 minutes each night

Aims

- To foster good lifelong learning and study habits
- To reinforce and extend the child's learning experiences
- To develop responsibility for the child's own learning, organisation and time management
- To facilitate a partnership between school and home, balanced with home and familial obligations and out of school recreational, cultural and other activities undertaken by the students of Elsternwick Primary School

Teachers can support students by:

- setting varied, meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assessing homework and providing timely and practical feedback and support
- helping students develop organisational and time-management skills

Parents can support students by:

- reading our homework guidelines (available on the school's website)
- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's homework expectations
- discussing with their parents or caregivers homework expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports

Useful Link

The EPS Homework Policy is supported by our Homework Guidelines (developed June 2017), which can be viewed on our website via the following link

EPS Homework Guidelines

<http://elsternwickps.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/EPShomeworkGuidelines.pdf>

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four-year review cycle.