



DPS Homework Policy

Reviewed: May 2026

Next review: May 2028

Recommended Review Cycle: every 3-4 years

Communication method: School Website



Help for non-English speakers.

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Doncaster Primary School.

PURPOSE

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

SCOPE

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

RATIONALE

Doncaster Primary School has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- providing opportunities for students to 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 refers to tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

POLICY

At Doncaster 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
- monitored by the teacher
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

Prep to Level 4

In the early and middle years, the objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time. It is also intended to introduce the concepts of self-discipline and personal responsibility and prepare students for the upper grades.

Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/carers/older siblings, phonics, spelling and writing practice exercises, and mathematics tasks. Students may complete tasks on online platforms which support learning happening in the classroom.

Students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Level 5 and 6

In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, personal responsibility, and initiative to prepare students for secondary school.

Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading and may include spelling and writing practice exercises, and mathematics tasks. Students may complete tasks on online platforms project work and online learning tasks which support learning happening in the classroom.

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

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 Doncaster 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 Doncaster Primary School** 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)
- 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
- offer opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

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.

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

- 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)
 - relevant services, clubs, associations and community.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Doncaster 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 is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child's teacher.

Doncaster Primary School has in place a number of learning programs that students may attend before, after or during school times to assist with particular areas of need or interest, including:

- Everest Program
- Victorian High Ability Program (Level 5-6)
- ICAS Competition
- EAL lessons
- Public Speaking Competition
- Premier's Reading Challenge

Students may be referred to programs by their teacher in consultation with their parents/carers. For more information about these programs, please contact your classroom 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
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

Policy last reviewed	May 2026
Consultation	Consultation with teachers and school council.
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	May 2029