



Homework Policy

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Reception at 03 9878 1730

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline Mount Pleasant Road Primary School's approach to homework.

SCOPE

This policy applies to staff and students in all year levels at Mount Pleasant Road Primary School.

DEFINITIONS

Homework

Tasks assigned to students by school teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

RATIONALE

"Homework in primary school has an effect of around zero. In high school it's larger. Which is why we need to get it right. Not why we need to get rid of it. It's one of those lower hanging fruit that we should be looking in our primary schools to say, "Is it really making a difference?" If you try and get rid of homework in primary schools many parents judge the quality of the school by the presence of homework. So, don't get rid of it. Treat the zero as saying, "It's probably not making much of a difference but let's improve it". Certainly I think we get over obsessed with homework. Five to ten minutes has the same effect of one hour to two hours. The worst thing you can do with homework is give kids projects. The best thing you can do is to reinforce something you've already learnt." John Hattie

John Hattie has been a Professor of Education and Director of the Melbourne Education Research Institute at the University of Melbourne, Australia, since March 2011. He was previously Professor of Education at the University of Auckland, University of North Carolina, and University of Western Australia. His research interests are based on applying measurement models to education problems. He is president of the International Test Commission, served as advisor to various Ministers and Chaired the NZ performance-based research fund.

POLICY

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School Name: Mount Pleasant Road Primary School	Policy name: Homework Policy	Policy Ref. Number VRQA	Consultation: Yes
Approved by: Kim Streitberger (Principal)	Date: May 2021	Next: May 2024	Version 1.0
			School Council

Mount Pleasant Road Primary School homework recommendations by year level:

Foundation to Grade 2

- Students are strongly encouraged to read every night with a parent or other carer
- Students will be provided with take home books and other texts to help facilitate home reading
- Home reading will be recorded in a log book
- Additional tasks to support learning may be provided

Grade 2 to Grade 4

- Students continue to be encouraged to read each night, either with a parent or carer, or independently. Students will be provided with take home books and other texts to help facilitate home reading
- Home reading will be recorded
- Students can be directed to online resources such as ABC Reading Eggs, Mathletics or Manga High if parents would like their child to complete further work at home.
- Additional tasks to support learning may be provided

Grade 5 to 6

- Students continue to be encouraged to read each night, either with a parent or carer, or independently.
- Home reading will be recorded
- Homework will be offered from Term Two onwards as part of a transitional role in preparing students for secondary school and beyond.
- Students can be directed to online resources such as ABC Reading Eggs, Mathletics or Manga High if parents would like their child to complete further work at home.
- Additional tasks to support learning may be provided

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS?CARERS

Successful schools see education as a collaborative process between the student, parent and the school, and consider parents to be 'partners' in their children's education. Schools that assist parents in providing support to their children tend to have better educational outcomes. Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like additional support

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in our staff policies drive
- Discussed at parent information nights
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

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FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)
- [John Hattie on BBC Radio 4: “Homework in primary school has an effect of zero”](#)

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