

Homework Policy

Maida Vale Primary School



Preamble

This policy has been developed in consultation with the School Board and school staff, following the Department of Education Homework Guidelines.

Homework Background

At Maida Vale Primary School, our aim is to develop a whole-school approach to homework expectations that considers students' needs and phase of development.

To ensure that homework is used effectively, we aim to:

- align it directly to the teaching and learning program and make sure it is appropriate to the needs of students
- support the development of the student's independence as a learner
- consider the level of help required from parents
- avoid relying on resources that the student may not have access to
- make sure it is relevant to the student's age, development and education aspirations
- be realistic in duration, so homework does not take over family, recreational and employment activities
- ensure it is balanced across learning areas to avoid stress and overload
- apply it consistently across our school with regular monitoring, review and adjustments to meet each student's needs
- use it to help achieve learning outcomes.

At Maida Vale Primary School, we endorse the following core ideals for our students:

- ✓ **Daily Home Reading**
Daily reading is strongly encouraged for all year levels, starting with 10 minutes in Kindergarten and progressing to a minimum of 20 minutes in Year Six. Home reading may involve children reading to parents, parents reading to and with children and children reading independently.
- ✓ **Outside Play (Reduce screen time)**
Excessive amounts of screen time can have an impact on children's language development and social skills. Children need real-life interactions to develop these skills. Play allows children to use their creativity while developing their imagination, confidence, and physical, social and cognitive skills.
- ✓ **Get a good night's sleep**
The benefits of a good night's sleep include improved attention, behaviour, learning, memory, and overall mental and physical health.

Definitions

Homework is a generic term; it describes any of the following:

- set homework
- continuing with project work
- finishing class work
- preparing ahead
- self-testing for assessments
- reading and/or researching
- the practice of new skills
- home reading.

Daily Expectations

Monday to Friday time guidelines:

- Kindergarten: up to 10 minutes
- Pre-Primary – Year 2: up to 15 minutes
- Year 3 – Year 4: up to 20 minutes
- Year 5 – Year 6: up to 30 minutes

NOTE: These times are inclusive of home reading.

Examples of appropriate homework tasks include:

- Phonics, spelling and word recognition practice
- Reading for pleasure
- Adults reading to children
- Practice and reinforcement of number facts as appropriate
- Practice and reinforcement of knowledge arising from class work.

Students with Particular Learning Needs

Some students have particular learning needs. On occasions, parents and teachers may work together to negotiate specific activities designed to reinforce or develop a concept.

Holidays

Teachers are not required to set homework during holiday periods or when students are unwell or taken on in-school term vacations.

Monitoring and Review

Annually, class teachers should work collaboratively with their peers to ensure there is consistency of homework across grade levels. Teachers are encouraged to plan together to ensure consistent literacy and numeracy skills are practised and consolidated.

Revision History

Version	Approved Amended Rescinded	Date	Authority	Key changes/notes
1	Established & Approved	2018	Principal Staff School Board	
2	Amended & Approved	October 2025	Principal Staff School Board	Definitions of Homework Homework Background as per DoE. Emphasis on Core Ideals Expectations around Holiday Homework

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