



# TOORAK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Canterbury Road, Toorak Vic 3142

## Homework Policy 2021

### Rationale

Toorak Primary School recognises that students have many learning experiences outside of school hours. However, it is also considered important that time should be set aside at home for school initiated homework. Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- enhance development of the student's self-discipline and time-management skills
- continue to develop student agency (responsibility for own learning)
- provide opportunities for reinforcement and extension of the classroom programme
- challenge and expand student's thinking and encourage them to use a range of resources and strategies
- provide opportunities for parents to share in their child's learning

### Definitions

**Homework** is tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

### 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 TPS** 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 TPS** 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

## Guidelines

### 1. General

- Homework is a shared responsibility between the parents, the teacher and TPS.
- Homework expectations will be outlined at the initial parent information evening.
- Homework should be varied, challenging and meaningful with tasks appropriate to students' learning needs.
- Teachers should assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support.
- Failure by students to complete homework on a regular basis may be followed up with parents.

### 2. In Prep to Year 4 homework will:

- Review class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials in an enjoyable way
- mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or older siblings
- will not be set on weekends or during school holiday periods

### 3. In Years 5 and 6 homework:

- should include daily independent reading
- may include review of class work, projects and assignments, essays and research
- will not be set on weekends or during school holiday periods (unless negotiated prior)

Year 5 and 6 students will use homework diaries to provide a means of communication between parents and the school.

## Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the TPS policy review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in August 2021.

The Homework Policy will be available for viewing on the TPS website.



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Language Loop on 92801907.