



Homework Policy

CUR003

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Somerville Rise 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 Somerville Rise Primary School.

Rationale

Somerville Rise 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 review, 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 is tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

Policy

At Somerville Rise 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.

The types of homework that teachers at Somerville Rise Primary School will include are:

Homework should be:

- appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- interesting, challenging, and where appropriate, open ended

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- ☒ balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities
- ☒ purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- ☒ assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided

Year Prep to 4

Homework will:

- ☒ enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials
- ☒ mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or older siblings
- ☒ generally not exceed 30 minutes a day and not be set on weekends or during vacations

Year 5 to 6

Homework will:

- ☒ include daily independent reading
- ☒ be coordinated across teachers in year level
- ☒ include extension of class work, projects and assignments, essays and research.
- ☒ generally range from 30 – 45 minutes a day

Types of homework that meet these requirements include:

Practice exercises — providing our students with the opportunities to apply new knowledge, or to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills, such as:

- ☒ completing consolidation exercises for Mathematics
- ☒ practising spelling words
- ☒ practising words or phrases learnt in a Language Other Than English (Indonesian)
- ☒ reading for pleasure
- ☒ writing tasks
- ☒ practising and playing musical instruments
- ☒ practising physical education skills

Preparatory homework — providing opportunities for our students to gain background information so they are better prepared for future lessons, such as:

- ☒ reading background material for research
- ☒ reading English texts for class discussion
- ☒ researching topics for class work
- ☒ collecting newspaper articles
- ☒ revising information about a current topic

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Extension assignments — encouraging our students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively, such as:

- ✎ writing a book review
- ✎ making or designing an art work
- ✎ completing Science investigation exercises
- ✎ researching local news
- ✎ finding material on the Internet
- ✎ monitoring advertising in a newspaper

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 Somerville Rise 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 Somerville Rise 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 and part-time employment (for older students).

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

Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

-  encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
-  observing and acknowledging their success and taking an active interest in Somerville Rise Primary School work and events for example open nights, displays and productions in which their children are involved
-  encouraging them to set aside a regular daily session to read and complete homework
-  setting an example by reading themselves
-  contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any problems their children are having with homework
-  helping them to complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources. It is better to encourage children to complete homework themselves
-  helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games and engaging in other leisure or recreational activities
-  checking whether homework has been set

Support for Students and Parents/Carers

Somerville Rise 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.

Related Policies and Resources

-  [Homework – Department Policy](#)

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