



HOME LEARNING POLICY

RATIONALE:

Staff at Vale Park Primary believe that home learning is one way to support progress. It can be a positive experience for students and families. It is aimed at enhancing higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available to consolidate skills and concepts learnt at school.

Through home learning, students also have the opportunity to develop:

- Self-discipline.
- Responsibility for their own learning.
- Pride in their effort.
- Satisfaction of learning.
- Independent study skills.
- Organisation and time management skills.
- Striving for excellence.
- Enhance family connection.



GUIDELINES

Vale Park Primary accepts that home learning is to be:

- A direct means of supporting the home-school partnership by providing parents and caregivers with opportunities to observe student progress and encourage positive attitudes to education.
- A purposeful learning experience and that it may contribute in a number of ways to the development and extension of the child's learning and the school program.
- Phased in gradually and consistently as students move through junior primary to primary and the middle years.
- Avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily accessible to the student.
- Set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational and cultural aspirations.
- Set from Monday to Thursday. *As a general rule, home learning will not be set on weekends and holidays, however students are encouraged to manage their own time to complete open-ended tasks, projects, assignments etc., and may choose to work at these times. Not expected in cases of extreme weather.*

POSSIBLE HOME LEARNING FORMATS may include:

- A weekly contract which includes a variety of activities.
- Home learning may be set each night.
- Working on long term assignments and projects.
- High frequency words and reading practice.



COMMUNICATION

Each teacher will have systems in place that will ensure clear communication is maintained between school and home (e.g., online learning [Seesaw, Dojo], diaries, newsletter, and emails).

An outline of some of the types of home learning provided.

Early Years (Reception – Yr. 2) (Up to 20 minutes per day)

- Reading /sharing one or more books daily with parents/caregivers or other siblings.
- Gathering information for oral talks.
- Practice of the alphabet and phonics.
- Practice of frequently used words.
- Handwriting practice.
- Physical activity.



Primary (Years 3-6) (Up to 30-45 minutes per day)

- Reading daily.
- Practice in Maths/continuation of work, e.g., Spelling, Writing and Maths.
- Completing or continuing ongoing class work, e.g., Projects, assignments and research.
- Physical activity

Parents can help by:

- Communicating to the classroom teacher if they are having difficulty.
- Allowing their child to accept responsibility for their own home learning.
- Providing a dedicated place and time for home learning and study where possible.
- Checking diaries and discussing

workload/priorities.

- Encouraging and supporting their child to fulfil home learning requirements.
- Contacting class teachers if there are difficulties.
- Discussing expectations with their child.
- Providing assistance with the development of time management and organisation skills.
- Providing positive supportive encouragements.

Students can help by:

- Accepting responsibility for the completion of home learning tasks within set time frames.
- Managing workload by filling in diary/planner or home communication and setting timelines.
- Advising parents/caregivers of home learning expectations.
- Seeking assistance from teachers or parents when difficulties arise.
- Putting in their best effort.
- Organising and using time well to manage home obligations, participating in dance, music and sports commitments and family activities.
- Following up on comments made by teachers.

EXPECTATIONS

There is an expectation that home learning will be completed. If home learning is not completed for any reason, at the set time, we appreciate communication to the classroom teacher to explain the reasons. Classroom teachers may provide opportunities for students to catch up with home learning.

Students will not be provided or expected to complete any home learning, while on an exemption/holiday.

