



TRARALGON SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff Traralgon South Primary School's expectations for homework and at-home learning.

SCOPE:

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting homework.

POLICY:

1. Traralgon South Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.
2. Teachers at Traralgon South Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful. This may comprise of reading, practice exercises or extension assignments.
3. **Prep to Year 4:**
 - a. In the early years, the objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time. It is also intended to introduce the concepts of self-discipline and responsibility and prepare them for the upper grades.
 - b. Assigned homework tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials.
 - c. Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/carer or older siblings, but may also include VCOP Big Write preparation (talk homework), spelling words, and tasks associated with MAPPEN independent inquiries.
 - d. Students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.
4. **Year 5 to Year 6:**
 - a. In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school.
 - b. Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading and may include extension assignments, class work, VCOP Big Write preparation (talk homework), spelling words, and tasks associated with MAPPEN independent inquiries such as essays and research.

- c. Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

5. Shared Expectations and Responsibilities:

- a. 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.
- b. Traralgon South Primary School will support students by:
 - i. fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools;
 - ii. ensuring the school's Homework Policy is relevant to the needs of students;
 - iii. encouraging parents/carers of early Primary School aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment
- c. Teachers at Traralgon South Primary School will:
 - i. equip students with the skills to solve problems;
 - ii. encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination;
 - iii. set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs;
 - iv. give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities;
 - v. assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support;
 - vi. help students develop organisational and time-management skills;
 - vii. develop strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework;
 - viii. offer a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children.
- d. It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own learning by:
 - i. discussing with their parents/carers homework expectations;
 - ii. accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames;
 - iii. following up on comments made by teachers;
 - iv. seeking assistance when difficulties arise;
 - v. organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities.
- e. It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by:
 - i. developing a positive and productive approach to homework;
 - ii. ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities;
 - iii. reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity;
 - iv. talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework;
 - v. attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in;
 - vi. discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences;

- vii. linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community;
- viii. ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks.

6. Support for Students, Parents and Carers:

Teachers at Traralgon South Primary School understand that students have different learning styles and interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If there are concerns that a child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, parents and carers are encouraged to speak to their classroom teacher or Principal.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - [Homework Guidelines](#)
 - [Homework Expectations](#)

REVIEW CYCLE:

This policy was last ratified by School Council on 21 October 2019 and is scheduled for review in 2022.