



# Serpell Primary School Home Learning Policy



## Purpose

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

## Definitions

*Home Learning* is any school related activity which takes place outside normal school hours and contributes to the development of the student and to support activities at school.

## Scope

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

Home Learning outcomes to include:

- Learning improvement through practice;
- The development of life long study skills and responsibilities;
- Reinforcement of learning from school;
- Establishing organisational skills to undertake learning at home, including meeting deadlines.

## Policy

Serpell Primary School acknowledges that home learning should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.

Teachers at Serpell Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful. The need for students to develop their own leisure activities is accepted.

Learning tasks completed will be checked by the class teacher and suitable feedback be given.

### *Prep to Year 4*

In the early years, the objective of home learning should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time. Assigned home learning tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials.

Students are generally not expected to complete:

- Prep: Will mainly consist of daily reading to, with and by parents / carers or older siblings.
- Years 1 – 4: Will not exceed 30 minutes a day (including 15minutes of reading).

### *Year 5 to Year 6*

In the upper year levels, the objective of home learning is to build on the concepts of responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school.

Assigned home learning tasks will include daily independent reading. Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on home learning.

### *Shared expectations and responsibilities*

Home learning is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. In order to get the most out of home learning tasks, it is important that everyone understands their responsibilities.

Students will be supported by:

- Fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools.
- Ensuring the school's home learning policy is relevant to the needs of students.

- Advising parents/carers of home learning expectations at the beginning of the school year.
- Encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment.
- Ensuring that upper primary students use diaries to assist in the organisation of home learning.

**Teachers will:**

- Equip students with the skills to solve problems.
- Encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination.
- Set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs.
- Give students enough time to complete home learning, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities.

Teachers understand that students have different learning styles and interests, and may approach learning activities and home learning differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the home learning tasks that have been set for him or her, or is spending a long period of time completing their home learning, we encourage you to speak to their teachers.

Home Learning requirements will be monitored by the Year Level Leader. Home Learning is given, and exemptions when required, at the discretion of the teacher in conjunction with teachers at the same level. It is an expectation that the teacher will ensure students are familiar with Home Learning tasks.

The Home Learning schedule may run across a weekend – e.g. given out on Tuesday and returned to school on the following Monday. Home Learning will not be given during holiday periods. Extra tasks will not be set for students who take holidays within school term times. These students will be encouraged to keep a diary of their travels and write to their class.

**Companion Policies:**

Homework Guidelines: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/guidelines.aspx>

Homework Expectations: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/expectations.aspx>

**Review Cycle:**

This policy was last updated on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2018 and is scheduled for review in May 2022.