



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Administration.

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Serpell Primary School's policy requirements relating to home learning.

Scope

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring home learning at Serpell Primary School.

Rationale

Serpell Primary School has developed this Home Learning 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.
- 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

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

Policy

At Serpell Primary School all home learning 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.

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 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 15 minutes 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.

At Serpell Primary School the types of home learning that teachers at Serpell Primary School will include are:

- Completing consolidation exercises for mathematics.
- Completing science investigation exercises.
- Practising spelling words.
- Practising sports skills.
- Practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English.
- Reading for pleasure.
- Researching topics associated with set class work.
- Engaging with parents in learning activities such as:
 - rehearsing a presentation with parent/carers, and seeking their feedback.
 - interviewing a family member as part of a research project.

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.

Responsibilities and expectations for *leaders at Serpell Primary School* are to:

- Advise teachers, students, and parents/carers of home learning expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with access to the home learning policy.

Responsibilities and expectations for *teachers at Serpell Primary School* are to:

- Set home learning that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age.
- Ensure home learning 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 home learning and provide timely and practical feedback.
- Ensure the amount of home learning 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 home learning policy.
- Discussing home learning expectations with their parents/carers.
- Accepting responsibility for the completion of home learning 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.



Serpell Primary School Home Learning Policy



Responsibilities and expectations for *parents/carers* are:

- Ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on home learning and recreational, family, and cultural activities.
- Talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the home learning.
- Discussing home learning with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home.
- In dialogue, linking home learning to:
 - previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had.
 - family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s).
 - relevant services, clubs, associations, and community.
- Ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete home learning.

Support for Students and Parents/Carers

Serpell Primary School understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and home learning differently. If parents/carers are concerned their child may not understand the home learning tasks that have been set or is spending a long period of time completing their home learning, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child's teacher.

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. These students will be encouraged to keep a diary of their travels and write to their class.

Communication

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

Policy Review and Approval

Policy last reviewed	This policy was last updated on the 23 rd of February 2022.
Consultation	School Council 2018
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	This policy is scheduled for review in February 2026.