

# HOME LEARNING POLICY

## PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Lalor North 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 Lalor North Primary School.

## RATIONALE

Lalor North 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
- 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

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

## POLICY

**At Lalor North 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.

**The types of home learning that teachers at Lalor North Primary School could include are:**

- completing mathematics activities
- completing inquiry investigation
- making or designing an artwork
- practising sports skills
- practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English
- reading for pleasure and/or home reading
- applying new skills to home context such as:
  - planning and cooking food, including following a recipe
  - helping to plan a day trip or holiday, including timings, directions and costs
- 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 obligations and responsibilities.

**Responsibilities and expectations for leaders at Lalor North 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 Lalor North 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 tasks and provide timely and practical feedback
- ensure the amount of home learning tasks 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
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities.

**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 tasks
- discussing home learning tasks with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home,
- in dialogue, linking homework 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 tasks.
- inform the school in writing if they do not want home learning tasks for their child.

**SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS**

Lalor North 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 tasks, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child's teacher.

**COMMUNICATION**

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

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

**RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

- Homework – Department Policy

**POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	February 2025
Consultation	Staff on 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 School Council 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	February 2029