



Homework Policy

Scope

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Hesket Primary School.

Rationale

At Hesket Primary School, we aim to develop homework as a part of student learning which is engaging, extending and manageable for students, parents and teachers. Homework tasks will assist in developing a learning experience that is positive for all involved.

Our professional knowledge and understanding show that homework should build upon what is happening in the classroom in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Tasks should be meaningful to our students, simple, fun and easy, relevant to the curriculum and within expectations of what can be achieved at home.

We believe teachers and parents need to support students in learning to ensure success. We expect homework to be designed to enable parents to engage with their child to make learning successful and productive. We value strong communication between home and school and for parents to build upon individual student learning goals set at school as they are able to.

We will all work together to assist, improve and refine skills and concepts taught at school. We believe homework will encourage our students to be positive about school and develop students' organisational skills. Homework will strengthen the parent/student learning relationship by ensuring parents understand what is happening at school and have regular opportunities to celebrate their children/s learning success.

Definitions

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

Policy

At Hesket Primary School all homework 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
- provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

The types of homework that teachers at Hesket Primary School will include are:

- regular home reading, with targeted focus and to foster a love of literacy
- completing consolidation exercises or activities to support individual mathematics goals
- practising spelling words and associated spelling rules
- researching topics associated with set class work
- adhoc homework tasks that support a transition to secondary school style homework and organisation routines.

Shared Expectations and Responsibilities

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.

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

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

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

- set homework that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- ensure homework 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 homework and provide timely and practical feedback
- ensure the amount of homework 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 homework policy
- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise.

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are:

- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- discussing homework 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 homework.

Support for Students and Parents/Carers

Heskett Primary School understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If parents/carers are concerned their child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, 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
- 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](#)

Evaluation

Policy Last Reviewed: 14.11.23

Consultation: In consultation with teaching staff

Approved By: Principal

Next Scheduled Review Date: 14.11.27