



Homework and Home tasks

POLICY

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department of Education's (DE) and Ocean Grove Primary School's policy requirements relating to home tasks.

Scope

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

RATIONALE

Ocean Grove Primary School has developed this Home Tasks 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 tasks are tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

POLICY

At Ocean Grove Primary School all home tasks set by teachers will be **optional** and inclusive of the following:

- 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 tasks that teachers at Ocean Grove Primary School will include are:

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- completing science investigation exercises
- making or designing an artwork
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising spelling words
- practising sports skills
- practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English
- reading background material for a subject
- reading English texts prior to class discussion
- reading for pleasure
- researching topics associated with set class work
- revising/preparing for tests
- 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
 - growing plants

- reviewing their favourite film or book
 - writing a diary entry
- 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 tasks are a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. In order to get the most out of home tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

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

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

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

- set home tasks that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- ensure home tasks 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 tasks and provide timely and practical feedback
- ensure the amount of home 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 tasks policy
- discussing home tasks expectations with their parents/carers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of home tasks 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 and part-time employment (for older students).

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

- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on home tasks and recreational, family and cultural activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the home tasks
- discussing home tasks with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home,
- in dialogue, linking home tasks 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 tasks.

SUPPORT for students and parents/carers

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

Related policies and resources

- [home tasks – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	November 2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	November 2029 - recommended minimum review cycle for this policy is 3 to 4 years

Extracted from https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/home_tasks/policy