

## HOMework POLICY

### PURPOSE

- To outline to our school community the Department's and Wahgunyah 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 Wahgunyah Primary School.

### RATIONALE

Wahgunyah Primary School has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the school council to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- promoting nightly reading as the main focus of the P-6 homework program
- promoting organisational skills through completing and handing in a reading diary each week in addition to borrowing age appropriate texts from the school library
- promoting the value of physical activity, family time and other and extra-curricular activities in non-school hours
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers on an individual level (avoiding a one-size fits all mentality)
- not overloading students/families with unnecessary tasks to be completed after hours

### DEFINITIONS

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

### POLICY

**At Wahgunyah Primary School all homework set by teachers will be:**

- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- appropriate to students' skill level and age
- monitored by the teacher
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning (eg. as part of an individual education program)

**The type of homework that all teachers at Wahgunyah Primary School include is:**

- Nightly reading (at least 3 times each week) which is to be recorded in their school reading diary

**The types of homework that teachers at Wahgunyah Primary School may include are:**

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- practising spelling words
- completing science investigation exercises
- researching topics associated with set class work

- brainstorming or planning for a Big Write (formal writing task)
- applying new skills to home context such as: planning and cooking food, including following a recipe etc.

#### **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 Wahgunyah 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 Wahgunyah 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)
- ensure the amount of homework set supports a student to engage with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities outside of school hours

#### **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
- 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 homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

#### **SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS**

- Wahgunyah 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.

#### **RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

- Homework – Department Policy

#### **REVIEW PERIOD**

- This policy was last updated on **May 2021** and is scheduled for review on May 2025