

HOMEWORK POLICY



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact 5992 7900.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff Botanic Ridge's expectations for homework and at-home learning.

SCOPE

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

RATIONALE

Botanic Ridge Primary School believes that student learning at home is a community effort and when students are taking part in homework tasks, that it is a hands-on learning opportunity for each student and their families.

Professor John Hattie (researcher in Education) states that 'homework in primary school has an effect size of zero' and five to ten minutes of homework has the same effect as one or two hours. He believes the best thing you can do for homework is reinforce something you have already learnt. Professor Hattie also states that schools should be improving the way they do homework.

Botanic Ridge Primary School has developed this Homework 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

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

POLICY

At Botanic Ridge 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
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

Teachers at Botanic Ridge Primary School will request students complete some brief homework tasks according to the following guidelines:

Foundation-Year One

- daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings
- daily practice of words

Year Two

- daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings
- daily practice of words
- practice of addition/subtraction number facts (e.g. doubles, tens facts)

Years Three – Year Six

- daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings
- practice of addition/subtraction, multiplication/division number facts

No homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Normal daily routine activities completed by students at home, with members of their family and parent direction, are also recognised as homework tasks. These include participating in:

- supervised cooking activities
- attempting maintenance type tasks with an adult
- conversations regarding news items and TV programs with family members
- playing board games
- analysing and discussing reading material or movies
- being involved in maths based real-life tasks like sorting, creating patterns, counting items, working with money or creating shopping lists
- writing a journal entry
- practising sports skills

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 Botanic Ridge 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 Botanic Ridge 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
- 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

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

- setting routines at home to ensure homework tasks are completed
- 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

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Parents may speak with the student's class teacher about additional resources and supports, such as educational websites or suggestions for board games and other family activities that will support learning and development. It is expected that families will ensure that there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities. Parents can best support the learning of their children by reading to and with them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Botanic Ridge Parent Complaint Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#)
- [John Hattie – Homework BBC interview](#)
- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - [Homework Guidelines](#)
 - [Homework Expectations](#)

REVIEW CYCLE

Policy last reviewed	13/05/2026
Approved by	Emma Fuller - Principal
Next scheduled review date	01/05/2030