

HOMEWORK POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school's administration office.

PURPOSE

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

RATIONALE

MINDALK 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
- recognising the importance of balance between learning, play, rest, family time and community participation.

DEFINITIONS

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

POLICY

At MINDALK Primary School all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- appropriate to students' skill level and age focused on reinforcing learning that has already been explicitly taught in the classroom
- 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
- reasonable in time expectations and mindful of student wellbeing.

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

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- practising spelling words
- practising sports skills
- 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 approved school applications such as:
 - Little Learners Love Literacy
 - Sora – Digital books for literacy learning
 - Numbots – Games to aid Maths skills
 - Timetable Rock Stars - learn and practice times tables

Suggested minimum time	Year Level	Tasks		Extension/Choice (Differentiated activities)
10 minutes	Foundation	Daily reading (recorded in log)	Phoneme-grapheme practice, e.g. <i>s, a, t, p</i> sounds taught in class Oral Language talk, e.g. retell, naming, describing Number sense activities to build fluency	-Sound Hunt Find objects at home that start with today's sound (e.g. <i>s</i> : sock, spoon). - Build & Say Build a CVC word using magnetic letters or cards and say it aloud. -Draw & Label Draw a picture and label it using known sounds (approximate spelling encouraged).



15 minutes	Year 1 & 2	Daily reading (recorded in log)		-Word Builder Make 3 new words using the week's phoneme-grapheme sequence.
20 minutes	Year 2	Daily reading (recorded in log)	Phoneme-grapheme spelling practice using taught phonics sequence Number fact practice/games Journal writing	-Reading Response (oral or written) Tell someone your favourite part of the story and why. -Maths at Home Find numbers around the house (prices, clocks, packaging) and explain what they show.
30 minutes	Year 3 & 4	Daily reading (recorded in log)	Reading comprehension of novel study Spelling linked to Word Origins Maths fluency Short reflective task, e.g. respond to a question of humanities unit	-Vocabulary Deep Dive Pick one word from reading: write a sentence, draw it and explain it to someone at home - Strategy Reflection Write or talk about how you solved a maths problem, not just the answer. -Creative Response Retell part of a text as a comic strip or storyboard.
40 minutes	Year 5 & 6	Daily reading (recorded in log)	Independent Reading Reading comprehension of novel study Spelling/Vocabulary linked to Word Origins Maths fluency Short reflective task, e.g. respond to a maths	- Explain Your Thinking Write a short explanation of a strategy used in class (Mathematics, English, Humanities). - Connect & Apply Find a real-world example linked to



			question 'what strategy helped you solve ...'	current learning (e.g. fractions in recipes). - Inquiry Spark Write one "I wonder..." question linked to the current Humanities unit.
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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 MINDALK 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.
- support consistency of homework expectations across year levels.

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers at MINDALK 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.
- ensure homework is used to support learning and practice and is not used as a formal assessment or grading tool.

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

- 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

MINDALK 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 (or insert other online parent/carer/student communication method)
- Included in Mindalk Manual – Staff
- Included in Mindalk Manual - Parents
- 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 2026
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	February 2028