

# BEAUMARIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

## HOMework POLICY

### PURPOSE

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

### SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting homework.

### POLICY

Beaumaris Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.

Teachers at Beaumaris Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful. This may comprise reading, practice exercises or extension assignments.

#### **Prep – Year 2**

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Daily reading (take home, favourite, interest and library books) to, with or by a parent/guardian or older sibling to promote enjoyment of reading and develop confidence
- Practice exercises or gathering extra information to support classroom learning, such as sight word reading, Mathletics and Reading Eggs tasks

It is recommended that homework will not exceed 15 minutes per day.

#### **Year 3 – 4**

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Daily independent reading to promote appreciation of different texts and authors
- Practice exercises to support classroom learning, such as spelling, Mathletics and Reading Eggs
- Tasks to investigate the subject focus, apply new knowledge and gather information in preparation for Education Research Projects and future classroom learning

Homework will not exceed 30 minutes per day.

#### **Year 5 – 6**

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Daily independent reading to promote appreciation of different texts and authors
- Practice exercises to support classroom learning, such as spelling or Mathletics
- Tasks to investigate the subject focus, apply new knowledge and gather information in preparation for Education Research Projects and future classroom learning

Homework will generally not exceed 45 minutes per day.

It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as additional homework tasks.

## 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.

Beaumaris Primary School will support students by:

- fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools
- ensuring the school's homework policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and providing them with a copy of the homework policy
- encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment
- ensuring that upper primary students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Teachers at Beaumaris Primary School will:

- equip students with the skills to solve problems
- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- develop strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework
- offer a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's education.

It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing with their parents/carers homework expectations
- 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.

It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- ensuring upper primary students keep a homework diary
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences

- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks.

### **Support for students, parents and carers**

Teachers at Beaumaris Primary School understand that students have different learning styles and interests, and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set for him or her, or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage you to speak to your child's teacher.

Students may be referred to programs by their teacher in consultation with their parents/carers. For more information about these programs, please contact your child's teacher.

### **Extended Leave or Family Holidays**

Parents/guardians should recognise that any absence will disrupt the learning routine of students at school.

However, the occasional family holiday will usually provide the students with powerful learning opportunities.

Beaumaris Primary School teachers do not provide homework tasks during these periods. Under these circumstances families are expected to:

- Take appropriate reading materials from home or the local library and read daily
- Practise number facts regularly
- Access Reading Eggs or Mathletics for literacy and numeracy activities
- Take advantage of social and cultural experiences and discuss them with your child
- Maintain a daily diary (drawing for younger students)
- Access year level Statement of Intent (accessible via Beaumaris Primary School website – [beaups.vic.edu.au](http://beaups.vic.edu.au))

## **REVIEW PERIOD**

This policy was last updated in 2019 and is scheduled for review 2023