

POLICY TITLE: Home Learning Policy
DATE RATIFIED: February 2019
REVIEW DATE: February 2022

ENPS MISSION: We maximise the potential of all; empowering independence, excellence, innovation and engagement with the world.

Critical Engagement
with the World

Academic Excellence

Inclusive Learning
Environment

Personal and Social
Wellbeing

RATIONALE

At Essendon North Primary School, we believe that to empower our students to be independent, innovative and engage with the world, we must provide transdisciplinary learning environments that foster creativity, conceptual understandings and an inquiry approach to learning. The Home Learning Policy enables and ensures consistency between the written, taught and assessed curriculum, both vertically and horizontally across our school, with the home learning opportunities provided to further support learning beyond the classroom.

Aligned with the Student Learning and Assessment Guidelines, Home Learning at Essendon North Primary School is:

- **relevant**
- **significant**
- **engaging**
- **challenging**

Home Learning at ENPS supports student progress by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. Home Learning is another opportunity for parents to participate in their child's education, however, is designed to be flexible to meet the differing needs of our students and families.

THEORY OF ACTION *If* Home Learning at Essendon North Primary School is aligned with Student Learning and Assessment Guidelines and is clearly documented, based on shared understandings, expectations, practices and vision, **then** all students will be provided with opportunities for continued growth to achieve their maximum potential; academically, physically, socially and emotionally.

PURPOSE The purpose of this policy is to provide consistent expectations, understandings and approaches for Home Learning across the school and in the home.

IMPLEMENTATION

Home Learning Expectations at ENPS

Home Learning at ENPS will be prepared in a way that is aligned with the Victorian Department of Education and Training (2015) expectations and guidelines.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/expectations.aspx>

At ENPS Home Learning is:

- appropriate to the skill level and age of students
- interesting, challenging, and where appropriate, open ended
- balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities
- purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- individual and/or collective feedback and support provided

Home Learning Guidelines (as provided by the DET 2018) Year level information will include Home Learning expectations at the start of each year. Students and parents should be aware of the expected length of any activity.

Year Level Home Learning

Foundation to Year 4

- should not be seen as a chore
- enables the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials
- will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings
- will generally **not** exceed 30 minutes a day or be set on weekends or during vacations.

Year 5 and Year 6

- should include daily independent reading
- may extend class work, projects and research
- will generally range from 30 to 45 minutes a day

SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH HOME LEARNING (Roles and Responsibilities)

Parents and carers can help students with their Home Learning by:

- encouraging home study routines to examine and complete Home Learning
- discussing key questions or suggesting resources to help with Home Learning

- helping to balance the time spent between Home Learning and recreational activities
- asking how Home Learning and class work is progressing, and acknowledging success
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- talking to teachers about any Home Learning problems
- checking if Home Learning has been set
- ensuring upper primary keep a Home Learning diary
- reading texts set by teachers
- discussing their child's responses to set texts and asking to see their completed work
- discussing Home Learning with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences
- linking Home Learning and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language.

Teachers can help students with their Home Learning by:

- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- helping students establish home study routines
- giving students enough time to complete Home Learning, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- providing timely and practical feedback and support
- making effective use of Home Learning diaries for upper primary students
- coordinating the allocation of Home Learning by different teachers in secondary schools
- helping students develop organisational and time-management skills
- talking to parents about any Home Learning problems
- introduce and explain home learning

Type of Home Learning at ENPS may include:

- Opportunities for students to apply new knowledge or to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills
- completing consolidation exercises for Mathematics and English
- practising physical education skills
 - practising and playing musical instruments

Opportunities for students to gain background information so they are better prepared for future lessons, such as:

- researching topics for unit of inquiry
- reading and discussing background material for units of inquiry
- reading English texts for class discussion

- revising information about a current topic

Encouraging students to pursue personal inquiry and participate in opportunities within the learning community, such as:

- reading for pleasure
- researching local news and material on the internet
- making or designing an artwork or performance
- completing Science investigation exercises
- attending community events and community service

EVALUATION Policy to be reviewed in 2022 or as impacted by Victorian DET Guidelines and best practice.

REFERENCES [http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/file_uploads/ETC_Home Learning_Inquiry_final_report_PWkrPPVH.pdf](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/file_uploads/ETC_Home_Learning_Inquiry_final_report_PWkrPPVH.pdf)

Student Learning and Assessment Guidelines and Lotus Diagram

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Effective Date	Owner	Description of change
1.2	February	Scott Mullen	Updated policy in alignment with DET guidelines

* Information on revisions and new versions to be added to the top of the table, therefore the most recent is always on top.