



Helena Valley Primary School

Homework Policy

In 2011 Helena Valley Primary School surveyed parents in regard to homework. This survey, Department of Education guidelines for homework, Staff and the School Council of Helena Valley Primary School recommend the following:

Department of Education homework principles:

Homework should:

- Support the development of the student's independence as a learner
- Further the partnership between school and home
- Avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student
- Be set without impinging on reasonable time for the family
- Be balanced across all learning areas so as to avoid stress and overload
- Be phased in gradually and consistently as students move through the upper years
- Be consistently applied, monitored and assessed in a whole-school approach that is responsive to individual needs and learning are requirements
- Only be used to facilitate the achievement of outcomes
- For part of a developmental learning program
- Be disassociated from any form of punishing students or means of securing discipline

Helena Valley Primary School Specific Guideline to homework:

- Homework is to be given consistently, and from week 2 to 9 each term.
- Reading homework should occur daily, and may include: a reading book, Lexile, library books, newspapers or a reading matrix
- It is suggested parents of older students, (year 4 – 7) should listen to or discuss the text their child/ren have been reading.
- Comprehension questions should be utilised by parents to assist their child in developing comprehension skills.
- Junior classes are to practice the Oxford Sight words daily.
- Bigger projects such as research, Mathletics, Spellodrome should be completed 2 or 3 times a week and be linked to the concepts being covered in the classroom.
- Consideration should be given to the amount of time homework will take. Included below is a guide of how much time homework should take for each year level. Eg 15 minutes a day in total for Kindy and Pre-Primary students
- More emphasis should be placed on utilising student diaries to record the completion of homework activities by staff, parents and students.
- Parents are to be provided with support materials to assist in the development of positive homework and reading skills.

	Total time allocation guide	Shared book – parent lead	Reading – Child lead	Lexile reading	Sight words	Incomplete work	Projects, research, current affairs	Spelling	Mathletics or Spellodrome
Kindy	15m	Not Neg							
Pre-Primary	15 m	Not Neg	Not Neg		Not Neg				
Year 1	20 m		Not Neg		Not Neg				
Year 2	20 m		Not Neg		Not Neg				
Year 3	20 m		Not Neg		Not Neg				
Year 4	30 m		Not Neg		Optional				
Year 5	30 m		Not Neg		Optional				
Year 6	30 m		Not Neg		Optional				
Year 7	30 m		Not Neg		Optional				