



HOMework POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Noble Park English Language School on 9546 9578.

PURPOSE

Homework helps students 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. It assists students to develop organisational and time management skills.

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that students are given opportunities to develop study skills and prepare for lifelong learning at home to support the learning at school.

The students at Noble Park English Language School (NPELS) are newly arrived students from many countries with varying educational backgrounds. The main goal of this school is to develop students' English skills in order to prepare them for mainstream schools. Therefore, homework is related to the acquisition of the English language skills of speaking, listening, reading and viewing and writing.

SCOPE

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

DEFINITION

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

Rationale

NPELS Homework policy has been developed with reference to the Department of Education and Training (DET) Homework guidelines 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.



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Noble Park English Language School will:

- advise parents of homework expectations at the beginning of the program and provide them with a copy of the homework policy
- follow up with parents if a student regularly fails to complete homework
- work with parents/guardians to establish good homework habits

Homework should:

- be appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- be meaningful and should not be seen as a chore
- enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials

POLICY

At NPELS 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
- monitored by the teacher
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

Amount of time spent on homework

DET has recommended that students spend varying amounts of time on homework, depending on the student's year level and age:

- In the Early Years (Prep to Year 4, ages 5-9) - homework should be up to 30 minutes a day, but not set on weekends or long vacations
- In the Middle Years and Senior Years (Years 5 to 10, ages 10-16) - homework should range from 30-45 minutes a day in year 5, to 45-90 minutes a day in Year 9

Types of homework

In the students first term homework focuses on developing the student's basic English skills. In the student's final term homework links more closely with mainstream school homework expectations and tasks.

Homework for Primary students can include:

- Daily reading or looking at books
- Practising saying words and sentences learnt in class
- Listening to digital stories



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- Practising writing new words learnt and writing sentences using the new words, learning spelling, practising handwriting, journal writing, maths language and concepts, research and projects
- Extended writing, for example, redrafting stories or essays
- Revision which includes reading over class work, sharing activities such as playing games, cooking, listening to stories with parents/guardians at home

Homework for Secondary Students, in Years 7-10 can include:

- Daily Reading
- Revision, consolidation and extension of class work
- Applying different spelling strategies to learn new words
- Revising maths language and concepts
- Practising using new grammatical structures, in an appropriate context
- Journal Writing
- Redrafting stories, writing a book report
- Listening to digital stories made by teachers
- Speaking in English with friends whenever possible, and participate in sporting/social clubs

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 NPELS 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 NPELS 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.

Responsibilities and expectations for students are:

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



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- 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

NPELS 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 staff handbook/manual
- 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



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FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL): [Homework](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	September 2022
Consultation	School Council
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	September 2026