



Home Learning Policy

GLEN HUNTLY PRIMARY SCHOOL HOME LEARNING POLICY

Rationale:

Glen Huntly Primary School recognises home learning as a home/school partnership. The setting of home learning activities needs to take into consideration the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, sport and cultural pursuits.

Aims:

1. To reinforce and encourage the development of parent participation in their child's education and develop their familiarity with specific areas of the Victorian Curriculum.
2. Extend the time available for learning and give students opportunities to improve their understanding of learning activities that have been experienced at school.
3. Encourage goal-setting, self-discipline, initiative and the development of independent learning skills and promote organisational and time management skills.
4. To assist in communication and build partnerships between home and school promoting a shared responsibility between parent, student and teacher of the student's educational development.
5. To provide opportunities for students to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills.
6. Provide opportunities for students to prepare for future learning.
7. Encouraging students to enrich or extend knowledge individually, collectively and imaginatively.
8. Foster and develop effective lifelong learning and study habits, including effective on-line learning.

Scope

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring home learning at Glen Huntly Primary School.

Implementation:

At Glen Huntly Primary School all home learning tasks 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.

Parents and students are to be advised of home learning expectations at the beginning of the school year at Information Nights and via Term Parent newsletters.

Students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school. Diaries may be electronic, such as found in Google Classroom.

As part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools, home learning activities are seen as one way of supporting and fostering life-long learning and connecting families with the learning of their children.

Parents are also encouraged to attend school events, productions, expos, exhibitions and/or learning displays in which their child has been involved.

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A general guide to home learning activities set by the school for each year level:

Foundation - Year 4

- will mainly consist of daily reading to, with and by parents / carers or older sibling
- consolidating of classroom activities - weekly spelling tasks, daily word study activities,
- Mathematics and Inquiry Learning tasks
- project based learning
- gathering extra information or materials required

Years 5 & 6

- reading- oral, shared and independent and text discussions
- consolidating of classroom activities - weekly spelling tasks, daily word study activities,
- Mathematics and Inquiry Learning tasks
- project and/or problem based learning
- researching of additional information or materials as required

Additional Home Studies:

Years 1 – 6

- students may be requested to spend some period of time to complete a specific project out of school hours

Students who are taken out of school for extended family vacations are encouraged to complete a travel journal in digital and/or handwritten form, capturing their experiences which they may share with their class upon their return, as well as maintaining their expected daily reading habits.

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 home learning tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Responsibilities and expectations for Glen Huntly Primary School are to:

- set home learning tasks that are curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- ensure home learning tasks are purposeful, meaning that activities are deliberately designed and planned to support student learning (so, they are not just 'busy work')
- assess home learning task completion and provide timely, constructive and practical feedback
- ensure the amount of home learning tasks 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 home learning policy
- discussing home learning expectations with their parents/carers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of home learning tasks within set time frames
- following up on and responding positively to comments/feedback made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise or clarification is required
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities

Responsibilities and expectations for parents/carers are:

- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and other activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about home learning tasks
- discussing home learning tasks with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home,
- in dialogue, linking home learning tasks to:

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- o previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had
- o family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s)
- o relevant services, clubs, associations and community.
- ensuring that there is a quiet and appropriate study area for their child to complete home learning task

Support for Students and Parents/Carers

Support will be available for students, parents and carers who may need assistance understanding or completing home learning tasks successfully, including in some instances, opportunities to attend homework clubs, tutoring, etc.

Glen Huntly Primary School understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and home learning tasks differently. If parents/carers are concerned that their child may not understand the home learning tasks that have been set, or their child is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage parents/carers to speak directly to their child's teacher to seek support and advice.

References:

DET- Homework (Home Learning) Guidelines and Expectations

<https://edugate.eduweb.vic.gov.au/sites/searchpoc1/Pages/allSearchResults.aspx?k=Homework>

<https://edugate.eduweb.vic.gov.au/edrms/keyprocess/cp/SitePages/SchoolPoliciesDetail.aspx?CId=34>

Review:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four year review cycle, due to be reviewed June 2025