**Belgrave South Primary School**

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**Homework Policy**

**Rationale:**

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

Homework provides students with opportunities to practise skills, review content and deepen their understandings of concepts learned. While homework is an important component of the teaching and learning process, it is important for students to have time for play, leisure and physical activities outside of school.

At Belgrave South Primary School, we have an approach to homework, which takes into account the personal and developmental needs of students.

**Implementation Guidelines:**

Effective implementation of our homework policy involves:

• Communication between teachers, students and parents/carers

• Homework that relates to what is being taught in the classroom

• Differentiated homework activities

• Relevant feedback given to students regarding their homework

**Homework helps students by:**

• Complementing and reinforcing classroom learning

• Fostering good lifelong learning and study habits

• Providing an opportunity for students to become responsible for their own learning

• Supporting partnerships with parents by connecting families with the learning of their children

**Roles and responsibilities**

**Schools can support students by:**

• Taking into consideration the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle

• Advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and making a copy of the homework policy available

• Not require excessive assistance from parents

• Encouraging the use of homework diaries

**Teachers can support students by:**

* encouraging real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
* giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
* Helping students develop organisational and time-management skills
* Offering a range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

Teachers will continue to find ways to help parents with ways to support their child’s homework and learning opportunities (for example tip sheets, ideas for reinforcing the concepts at home, information sessions or communicating via Compass).

**Parents can support students by:**

* Developing a positive and productive approach to homework

• Ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities

* Providing a dedicated place and time for homework and study where possible
* Informing class teachers if there are difficulties
* Allowing their child to accept responsibility for their own homework by assisting but not doing homework
* Providing assistance with the development of time management and organisation skills

**Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:**

• Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames

• Following up on feedback given by teachers

• Seeking assistance when difficulties arise

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**The table below describes homework for the different grade levels.**

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| **Homework F to 3** |
| **Prep/Foundation**- 10mins reading includes any text and texts can be read to, with or by the student Reading of Oxford words and finding words and sounds in the books they are reading. Parents to document in reading log book. Conversations about the text between parent and child**Grade 1**- 10mins reading (readers, recipes, and Oxford words) parents reading to students/students reading to children. Reading log to be documented by parents and/or children. Conversations about text to improve understanding of text.**Grade 2**- 20mins reading; keep a reading log documented by children and/or parents. Discuss inferences e.g. Why do you think the characters did that? How are the characters feeling and what may they be thinking? What does the author mean by this?**Grade 3**: 20min reading with reading log. 10min Number fact activities |
| **Homework 4 to 6** |
| **Grade 4:** * Reading for at least 20 minutes 5 times a week
* A 10 minute reading track on a focused area that is written in their book in class
* One night 10 minutes on the maths problem they are given in their maths group
* 4 out of 5 nights of 10 minutes Number fact activities; which will be outlined and completed in their regular homework book

**Grade 5:*** Reading for at least 20 minutes 5 times a week
* A 5 minute reading track recorded in their diary that should be varied and is encouraged to reflect our week’s reading focus.
* One night 5 minutes to complete their diary wellbeing activities
* Nightly mental maths for 10 minutes with 5 minutes of correction
* One night 10 minutes on the maths problem they are given in their maths group
* 4 out of 5 nights of 10 minutes number fact activities; which will be outlined in their new maths books

**Grade 6:*** Reading for at least 30 minutes 5 times a week
* A 10 minute, detailed reading track recorded in their diary that should be varied and is encouraged to reflect our week’s reading focus.
* One night 5 minutes to complete their diary wellbeing activities
* Nightly mental maths for 10 minutes with 5 minutes of correction
* One night 10 minutes on the maths problem they are given in their maths group
* 4 out of 5 nights of 10 minutes number fact activities; which will be outlined in their new maths books
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This policy was adapted from the DET Homework Guidelines. For more information regarding

homework please see:

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

**Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three year review cycle.

This policy was ratified by School Council in September 2017 Reviewed September 2020