



## Homework Policy

### PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and the Northern School for Autism's policy requirements relating to homework.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at the Northern School for Autism.

### RATIONALE

The Northern School for Autism has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council 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

### DEFINITIONS

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

### POLICY

Students will only receive homework at the request of parents.

At the Northern School for Autism all homework set by teachers will be:

- appropriate to students' skill level, age and communication abilities
- 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.

The types of homework that teachers at the Northern School for Autism will include are:

- making or designing an artwork
- practising and recognising spelling words and/or communication pictures
- practising words/phrases
- applying new skills to home context such as:
  - planning and cooking food, including following a recipe
  - helping to plan a day trip or holiday, including timings, directions and costs
  - growing plants

**Reservoir Campus**  
16-18 Gertz  
Reservoir Vic 3073  
Phone: 03 9462 5990

**Lalor Campus**  
2 - 4 Lyndon Street  
Lalor Vic 3075  
Phone: 03 9464 3480

- reviewing their favourite film or book
- writing a diary entry
- engaging with parents in learning activities such as:
  - Individual Learning Goals

## 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 the Northern School for Autism 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 the Northern School for Autism are to:

- set homework that is appropriate to the student's skill level, age and abilities
- ensure homework tasks are purposeful – this means they are deliberately designed and planned to support student learning and goals(so, they are not 'busy work' or where students 'finish off' work they did/could not complete in class)
- 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:

- seeking assistance when difficulties arise

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, or with the Communication Devices available
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

## SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

The Northern School for Autism 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.

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	April 2025
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	April 2028 – mandatory policy <i>noting that the recommended minimum review cycle for this policy is 3 -4 years</i>

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