



Help for non-English speakers - If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Administration at Ph. 8766 4000

RATIONALE

At Barton Primary School, we do not provide traditional homework for our students. Homework is not scheduled, monitored or assessed.

Professor John Hattie (researcher in Education) states that 'homework in primary school has an effect size of zero' and five to ten minutes of homework has the same effect as one or two hours. He believes the best thing you can do for homework is reinforce something you have already learnt. Professor Hattie also states that schools should be improving the way they do homework.

<https://visible-learning.org/2014/09/john-hattie-interview-bbc-radio-4/>

While Barton Primary School does not provide set traditional homework for all students, we recognise that many students may already be engaging with activities outside of school which are valuable learning for students. These include your child participating in music, sports, cultural experiences, cooking, shopping and helping around the home.

Additionally, some students may require additional support or extension activities/tasks to meet their individual learning needs. In such cases, teachers may provide individualised tasks that are designed to support or extend student learning. These students will be on an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and their goals and home-learning tasks be communicated to the student and their parents or caregivers.

They may include activities such as letter and sound recognition for reading, completing research or investigations, or practising skills and concepts taught in class.

SCOPE

This policy addresses how Barton Primary School doesn't provide traditional homework; however we can encourage students to participate in daily reading, extracurricular activities and experience, etc. and students on IEP will be provided tasks/activities to support or extend their learning.

Barton
PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY
HOME-LEARNING

<p>Play a game with an adult</p> 	<p>Physical Activity</p> 	<p>Cook</p> 	<p>Read</p> 
<p>Be read to</p> 	<p>Creative Activity</p> 	<p>Tell your Parents something you learnt</p> 	<p>Housework</p> 
<p>Technology</p> 	<p>Meditation / Relaxation</p> 	<p>Shopping</p> 	<p>Cultural Activity</p> 

LITERACY

Reading

At Barton Primary School, we believe that reading is a fundamental skill that is essential for success in all areas of learning. We encourage our students to read daily and emphasise the use of decodable texts to support our students' literacy development when they are beginning to read.

We encourage all students in the school to read for at least 10 minutes every day, both at school and at home. Students in the early years (Foundation to Grade 2) will be provided with decodable texts that are appropriate for their reading ability as well as access to digital decodable texts. Students from Grade 3 and upwards, may be provided with a wider range of texts to be read for a variety of purposes.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to support their child's reading by providing a quiet and comfortable space for reading, setting aside a regular time for reading each day, and listening to their child read aloud or reading aloud to their child. Asking questions and engaging in conversations about the text develops a child's oral language and promotes connections with their own experiences and deeper comprehension of the text.

Writing

There are 2 main elements of writing, transcription and composition, both of which can be practised at home in a variety of ways.

Transcription: The development of fine-motor control is essential for handwriting. Activities such as drawing, sewing, craft, cutting, building with blocks and playdough all strengthen the muscles in the hands and develop control.

Composition: Engaging in everyday writing tasks provide students the opportunity to practice transcription as well as understand the structure and purpose of a variety of texts. This may include writing lists, letters & postcards, diary entries, short stories and creating oral texts such as plays and songs.

Speaking & Listening

Supporting students to develop their speaking and listening skills is one of the best ways to ensure they achieve success at school. This can be done through talking to your child about their day, their learning and their interests in English or their first language. Playing with other children provides students the opportunity to learn social communication skills such as turn-taking and asking questions. Attending events or outings or participating in activities at home with adults can support children to develop their vocabulary and oral sentence structure. Supporting a students' phonological awareness can also be beneficial, which can be done through rhyming activities, books and songs and playing games such as I-spy with sounds.

For further information, please refer to the **Literacy Policy** on the school website

NUMERACY

At Barton Primary School, we believe that numeracy is an essential skill that is critical for success in many areas. We have implemented a Numeracy Policy that emphasises the use of Big Ideas in Number and Number Facts to support our students' numeracy development. By developing a deep understanding of these concepts, students are better able to apply their numeracy skills in a range of contexts and solve problems more effectively.

The ability to recall number & multiplication facts efficiently with automaticity are key building blocks of numeracy that students need to master in order to progress to more advanced areas of mathematics. By learning and practising these facts, students develop essential skills such as mental computation, estimation, and problem-solving.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to support their child's numeracy development by providing opportunities for practise and reinforcement at home, such as using games, counting at every opportunity, timetabling, involvement with budgeting for shopping, cooking experiences and using manipulatives to reinforce key concepts.

For further information, please refer to the **Numeracy Policy** on the school website

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in our staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Included in student diaries so that it is easily accessible to parents, carers and students
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at student forums/through communication tools
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

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

<https://visible-learning.org/2014/09/john-hattie-interview-bbc-radio-4/>

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/home-learning-vs-no-home-learning-wrong-question-maurice-elias>

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	26/07/2023
Consultation	School Council
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	26/07/2026

