

Homework Policy

Rationale

Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Aims

- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop a responsibility for self-learning.

Procedures

- The College's homework policy will be distributed to parents at the commencement of each College year through the Newsletter, the College Diary and information provided at Information Sessions held at the start of each year.
- All students will be allocated homework diaries.
- Classroom teachers will set daily homework appropriate to each child's level and age, and in accordance with the Homework schedule
- Homework activities should be interesting, challenging and where appropriate, open-ended.
- Each set task must be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum. Drill and practice activities may be included.
- All homework activities must be assessed with feedback and support provided by teachers. The form of 'assessment' is determined by the teacher.
- Parents are encouraged to support homework by checking its completion and by communicating with teachers if there is a concern.

Early Childhood (Kindergarten - Year 2)

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Reading/writing activities to, with and by parents.
- Simple extension or consolidation tasks associated with classroom activities eg computer work.
- Gathering of additional information or materials eg news.
- Phonics/Spelling

Homework will be set weekly and up to 30 minutes per day. Regular short practise often is more beneficial than doing it all in one go.

Junior School (Years 3 - 6)

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Independent reading on a daily basis.
- Tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, essays and research.

Homework may be set weekly and will generally not exceed 45 minutes per day but as Year 6 move towards Year 7 so their time will shift to 60 minutes per day. There must be coordination between teachers to avoid excessive workload. Some work may be set during weekends and College vacations.

It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks

Middle School (Year 7 - 8)

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Independent reading on a daily basis.
- Tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, essays and research.

Homework will be 60 minutes per day and may be set during weekends and College vacations

Senior School (Year 9 – Year 12)

Homework will consist of mainly of:

- Reading, research, assignments, assessments tasks and independent projects.
- Homework schedules will be discussed with each student individually, with opportunities being made to parents to discuss homework issues with the College.
- Students will be provided with formal opportunities to build organisation and planning skills.
- Homework will generally increase from 90 minutes (Stage 5) to 3 hours (Stage 6) per weeknight with up to 6 hours on weekends during peak HSC periods.
- From time to time there will be assistance given through the Co curricular activities such as Maths Tuition.
- Teachers may occasionally assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.
- No assessment tasks will be due 2 weeks before examination blocks.

Homework will be 90 minutes per day (Years 9-10) and 3 hours per day for Years 11 and 12.

Time guide

The expectation is:

Kindergarten – Year 2 up to 30 minutes per day
Years 3 -6 not exceed 45 minutes per day
(Year 6 will move towards the 60 minutes as they get closer to Year 7)
Years 7-8 60 minutes per day
Years 9-10 90 minutes per day
Years 11-12 3 hours per day

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed regularly with whole staff, students, parents and community input.

Implemented: 2006

Reviewed: 2009, 2010 (Full staff)