



HOME STUDY POLICY

RATONALE:

Home study can be defined as theoretical or practical work undertaken at home, which relates to, consolidates and supports work undertaken in school hours. This includes the completion of set tasks, assignments, preparation for tests, school assessed coursework, research and wider reading.

For success at secondary level, balanced and consistent application is needed at school and at home. The setting and completion of home study is, therefore, viewed as an integral part of the educational process at Wallan Secondary College.

Home study, regularly set and completed, can reinforce and enrich the curriculum and encourage excellence. In completing home study tasks to a high standard and by the due date, Wallan Secondary College students require the support of both parents and teachers.

AIMS:

- To develop organisational and time management skills,
- To develop the student's capacity to assume responsibility for his or her own learning,
- To prepare students for the work load required in the final years of high school, specifically VCE

IMPLEMENTATION:

- The nature and amount of home study at each Year Level will vary according to individual age, learning needs and contexts.
- Students at junior levels are introduced to appropriate tasks, study techniques and time management skills as a preparation for senior studies.
- It is also important that home study is balanced by hobby, social and sporting pursuits in order to provide appropriately for individual interests, growth and relaxation.

As a general rule the College recommends the following minimum guidelines:

- Years 7/8 - 5 Hours per week (45 min to 60 min per subject per week)
- Years 9/10 - 8 to 10 Hours per week (60 min to 90 min per subject per week)
- Years 11/12 - 15 to 20 Hours per week (120 min to 180 min per subject per week)

It should be recognised that these are only recommendations. Individual differences between students and additional factors. This work load can increase at different times during the semester, depending on the assessment schedules running across the year level. ([Appendix A](#))

- Students are responsible for recording home study details in their compulsory school planners and completing the tasks involved. Students are required to replace (at their own cost) planners that are defaced or used inappropriately.
- Regular home study is an important part of a secondary education. Students should write down all details of how the work should be done and when it is due, and should ask for help from the teacher if any details are unclear.
- Students need to understand unfinished classwork needs to be completed before the next lesson, unless the teacher provides instructions otherwise.

- If specific homework tasks are not assigned, students are still expected to spend time studying; reviewing notes and learning specific concepts taught in class, Or alternatively reading for pleasure, complete maths on line, activities which will build skills and capacity.
- When students are absent, it is their responsibility to ask teachers about work they have missed. This includes students missing classes for sporting events and musical performances and family reasons

If students are absent for extended periods, Pastoral Care Teachers or Yr Level Leaders should be contacted to arrange work to be sent home.

- It is the student's responsibility to ensure that work is subsequently completed after absence due to illness, appointments, sporting commitments, religious or other holidays.
- Teachers, Learning Area Leaders and Yr Level Leaders are responsible for overseeing the nature and frequency of appropriate home study tasks for students. They will endeavour to ensure an equitable and consistent home study program for students.
- Both parents and teachers share the responsibility for checking students' planners regularly to ensure their correct use, to monitor and report on individual progress.
- The process is further monitored by Pastoral Care teachers and Year Level Leaders, who will gauge student home study completion rates through regular Learning Checks, and discuss with parents as necessary.
- Teachers are responsible for ensuring that clear instructions regarding home study are given and that set tasks are regularly monitored and corrected.
- Staff should notify parents when home study tasks are frequently not attempted or incomplete. This will occur through parent teacher interviews and other reporting opportunities.
- Parents and caregivers share responsibility for encouraging maximum input and levels of performance.
- A Homework Club is provided by the College. This is held in the Library Resource Centre on Monday to Thursday between 3.30pm and 4.30pm.

This policy was ratified by College Council 18/02/2020
Date of next review: Feb 2021
