



Homework Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff Glen Eira College's expectations for homework and at-home learning.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and to staff responsible for setting homework.

RATIONALE

Glen Eira College expects students to further develop and consolidate their independent learning skills by completing homework tasks. Homework has a positive effect on learning and is an important part of reinforcing the concepts that are introduced in class. It also plays a significant role in building work ethic, self-discipline and responsibility.

Teachers at Glen Eira College are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students. Homework assigned across different learning areas will be coordinated by teachers to avoid unreasonable workloads for students.

- Homework is the work the teacher sets for students to practise a skill or develop their understanding of the content. Short, quality, purposeful homework tasks make a difference to fostering good lifelong learning and study habits.
- The setting of homework needs to take into consideration the need for students to have a balanced, active lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, sport and recreation, cultural pursuits and employment where appropriate.

We acknowledge John Hattie's research in his book "Visible learning" that suggests the following;

- The highest effects of homework in secondary school are associated with rote learning and practice or rehearsal of subject matter
- More task-orientated homework has higher effects than deep learning and problem solving tasks
- Teacher involvement in homework is key to its success.

OBJECTIVES

- To develop organisational and time management skills
- To develop the student's capacity to assume responsibility for their own learning
- To develop a balanced and consistent approach to study at home and at school

GUIDELINES

- Students are expected to develop sound homework patterns in their junior school years to ensure successful use of time in VCE. Students should ensure they understand homework tasks.
- All Students in Years 7-12 have a planner where they record their homework for the week. The planner should be taken home each night and sighted by parents.
- Homework set on a particular day should be noted in the planner. Students should be given adequate time to complete homework.

SHARED EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Glen Eira College will support students by:

- fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools
- ensuring the school's homework policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with a copy of the homework policy



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- ensuring students use their planner to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- recording their homework in the planner on the day it is given and day it is due
- completing homework within the timeline
- Seeking help from the teacher when required. NOTE: when using email, please refer to the communication policy.
- effectively use of class-time so as not to interfere with homework time.
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment.

Parents and guardians can help students with their homework by:

- encouraging a homework routine each night
- providing a regular place to complete homework that is free from distractions
- talking to the teachers about any homework problems
- checking if homework has been set using the planner
- helping student develop time management skills
- helping balance the time spend on homework and extra-curricular activities
- checking the planner regularly to monitor the student's' progress.
- discussing their child's responses to set texts and asking to see their completed work

Teachers can support students by:

- equipping students with the skills to solve problems
- providing students with resources they can use to help with the set work
- encouraging real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assessing homework and providing timely and practical feedback and support
- helping students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensuring parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- developing strategies within the school to support parents/carers becoming active partners in homework.
- offering a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

JUNIOR SCHOOL (YEARS 7-9)

Homework:

- Should include daily independent reading
- Should be coordinated across learning areas in order to avoid unreasonable workloads for students
- May extend class work, projects and assignments, essays and research.

Recommended time for Homework:

Year 7 and 8	30 to 45 minutes daily, maximum 5 days a week
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Year 9	45 to 90 minutes daily, maximum 5 days a week
<i>Homework time for individual subjects is generally allocated on a prorata basis. Year 7 Mathematics, for example, with 5 class periods a week would expect students to complete homework for around 30 minutes a week.</i>	

Homestudy is self-directed and provides an opportunity for students to reflect on the concepts learnt during the day and write summaries of this material. In doing so, students are developing independent study skills that prepare them for future.

Students complete homestudy after all homework has been completed or if there is no homework set on a particular night.

Homestudy examples include:

- Review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills, such as:
- practising physical education skills
- writing essays or other creative tasks
- completing consolidation exercises for Mathematics
- summary notes or dot points
- Make mind maps and relate part of topics
- Make a list of formula/formula sheet/reference sheet based on the topics that are covered in lesson each day
- Re read the class notes, watch suggested videos by teachers on google classroom
- Create a list of new terminology (KLA specific) learned each week.
- Create flashcards for new language learned
- Practise drawing/painting skills (where available)
- Journal writing
- Press Review
- Choose songs , movies and TV series in target language and share with the class

SENIOR SCHOOL (YEARS 10-12)

As a general guide, students in Years 10 to 12 would be expected to complete home study or revision from 1 to 3 hours per week night with up to 6 hours on weekends during peak VCE periods.

Homestudy examples include:

1. Read or watch content
 - Actively read the textbook, highlight the main points and watch Edrolo videos
 - Annotate and have a strategy whenever you read/watch
 - Be strategic about your reading/watching: when do you learn best? (before your teacher teaches content? After? In bulk?)
2. Make your own study/cue cards
 - Study cards should have key terms and points to remember
 - They should be in a specific order. Order is important
 - They should be derived from the dot points, your class notes, study design and the textbook
 - Always add to them
 - Make chapter summaries
 - Make a bound reference for exam preparation
3. Question Exposure



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- During the year your task is to get a lot of exposure to questions (past exam papers, Edrolo, Checkpoints)
- Use these to learn from and add to your study/cue cards. Mistakes helps you improve.
- Create your own Kahoot Quiz online based on previous exams

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS AND CARERS

Teachers at Glen Eira College understand that students have different learning styles and interests, and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set for him or her, or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage you to speak to the teachers or Year Level Coordinator.

Students who may benefit from support completing their homework tasks are encouraged to attend Homework Help.

- Homework Help runs every Tuesday and Wednesday in the library from 3:30 - 4:30pm.
- Tutors in key subject areas are available to help students with their assignments, homework or revision.
- There is access to computers, internet, printing and photocopying.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

School Policy and Advisory Guide:

- [Homework Guidelines](#)
- [Homework Expectations](#)