

# Homework Policy

---



## Help for Non-English Speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the General Office on 03 9571 7838.

## PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Glen Eira college'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 Glen Eira college.

## RATIONALE

Glen Eira College 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
- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers.

## DEFINITIONS

### Homework

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

## POLICY

At Glen Eira College all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- appropriate to students' skill level and age
- 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 Glen Eira College will include are:

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- completing science investigation exercises
- making or designing an artwork
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising spelling words

- practising sports skills
- practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English
- reading background material for a subject
- reading English texts prior to class discussion
- reading for pleasure
- researching topics associated with set class work
- revising/preparing for tests
- 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
  - reviewing their favourite film or book
  - writing a diary entry
- engaging with parents in learning activities such as:
  - rehearsing a presentation with parent/carers, and seeking their feedback
  - interviewing a family member as part of a research project.

### 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 Glen Eira College** 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 Glen Eira College** are to:

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

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment (for older students).

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,
- in dialogue, linking homework to:
  - previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had
  - family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s)
  - relevant services, clubs, associations and community.
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

## **JUNIOR SCHOOL**

- Year 7 and 8 Homework time: 30 to 45 minutes daily, maximum 5 days a week
- Year 9 Homework time: 45 to 90 minutes daily, maximum 5 days a week

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.

## **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 weeknight with up to 6 hours on weekends during peak VCE periods.

## **SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS / CARERS**

Glen Eira College 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.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

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

- Included in staff induction processes
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff handbook
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from the General Office upon request

## **RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	October 2023
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	October 2027