



Homework Policy

**WYNDHAM COLLEGE
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The importance of homework

Homework refers to any activities that students are asked to complete outside of class time. Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning. It helps to establish patterns of behaviour for lifelong learning, self-discipline, concentration and study.

Homework provides an opportunity for students to:

- practice, extend and consolidate work done in class
- take responsibility for their own learning
- develop skills that enable planning and organising time
- develop skills in identifying and using information resources.

Types of Homework

- Practice Exercises – These activities help students to remember and practice newly acquired knowledge and skills. They may include:
 - Revision and critical reflection of the work done in class to consolidate learning (practicing for mastery)
 - memorising knowledge (e.g. mathematical formulae; terminology)
 - reading
 - writing essays
 - practising skills (e.g. language words or phrases; physical education skills; playing musical instruments; mathematical problems; subject specific terminology; dance or drama performances)
 - writing up process diaries or practical work
 - completion of work commenced in class
- Preparatory Homework – These activities provide opportunities for students to source and read background information to prepare them for future lessons on a specific subject. They may include:
 - reading background information
 - reading English texts for class discussion
 - researching topics
 - collecting newspaper articles
 - preparation for exams and class tests
 - preparation for assessment tasks

Major Works (Body of works / projects/ performances)

- preparation / investigation / collection of ideas
 - research and brainstorming of ideas and topics
 - internet and library research
 - resourcing of materials
 - diary and folio explorations
 - completion and continuation of classwork
 - evaluation
- Extension Assignments – These activities provide opportunities that encourage students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively. They may include:
 - completing an investigation
 - research tasks
 - interdisciplinary explorations
 - multimedia projects
 - internet research

How much homework is necessary?

The amount of time devoted to homework and independent study may vary according to the student's learning needs and individual program of learning. The average student with good personal organisation of time and resources should spend:

Year	Weekdays	Weekends
11	1- 2 hours per day	6 hours over the weekend
12	1- 3 hours per day	6 hours over the weekend

The Role of the Homework Diary

The Homework diary is a necessary part of a student's school requirements and the College provides each student with a diary at the commencement of the school year. The diary must be bought to class each day. Students are encouraged to record homework information and due dates on a daily basis. Effective time management is an important aspect of student learning and a homework diary is an essential part of meeting deadlines, and developing good organisational skills.

Responsibilities

Students

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set timeframes
- following up on comments made by teachers
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activities and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment

How to manage homework?

- set a regular time and a quiet place for homework
- plan the work to be done and the time to be spent on each task
- take short breaks between tasks
- set small realistic goals for each subject
- avoid study marathons
- if problems occur speak to your teacher

Teachers

Teachers can help students establish a routine of regular, independent study by:

- setting homework on a regular basis
- clearing communicating the purpose, benefits and expectations of all homework
- checking homework regularly and providing feedback
- explicitly teaching strategies to develop organisational and time-management skills and providing opportunities to practice these strategies through homework
- giving consideration to other academic and recreational commitments when setting homework
- discussing with parents and caregivers any developing problems concerning their student's homework and suggesting strategies to assist with their homework

What can parents/ caregivers do to help?

Parents can support students by:

- taking an active interest in the type and amount of homework set and when it is due
- encouraging students to read and understand the College Assessment Policy and Procedures booklet
- encouraging a regular daily session to examine and complete homework
- providing a place for homework and study
- communicating with teachers and student advisers any concerns about the nature of homework or your child's approach to homework
- encouraging your child to read and take an interest in world events
- alerting the College to any domestic circumstances or extra curricular activities which may affect your child's ability to complete homework