

Homework Policy

2025-2028



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Hampton Park Secondary College on 03 8795 9400.

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Hampton Park Secondary 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 Hampton Park Secondary College.

Rationale

Hampton Park Secondary 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

As our context is unique, it is important we ensure students can access the homework set and independently complete what is required. As English is not the first language of many of our students, access is paramount if we are to reduce cognitive load and learning stress.

The Teaching and Learning Team will regularly communicate to staff the latest research from John Hattie, which states: *Task-oriented homework has a higher effect than deep learning and problem-solving homework. An effective homework approach is for students to rehearse basic skills (surface learning), which also requires minimal supervision.*

Other important points, backed by research, include:

- The quality of the task set appears to be more important than the quantity of work required from the pupil
- Homework should be an integral part of learning, rather than an add-on
- Incorporating the use of digital technology typically has a greater impact on student learning.

Definitions

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

Policy

Hampton Park Secondary College has high expectations of all our students. We expect our students to complete homework to consolidate their learning and enhance their learning skills, whilst building independence, retrieval and practice skills, imperative to the transferal of learning.

At Hampton Park Secondary College homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- set at an appropriate challenge level for each 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.
- related to the concepts, skills and knowledge being taught
- appropriately assessed, with feedback provided in a timely manner
- appropriate in time length, connected to the students age and ability

The types of homework that teachers at Hampton Park Secondary College could include (but is not limited to) the following:

- completing work missed during absences
- revision of class work
- reading tasks that enhance student vocabulary of commonly used terms – subject specific
- preparation for assessments
- completing consolidation exercises to reinforce learning
- practicing a newly acquired skill
- reading background material for a subject
- preparing for upcoming learning (for example: pre-reading, pre-loading vocabulary)

- reading for pleasure
- researching relevant topics
- revising/preparing for tests
- applying new learnings/ skills
- 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.

The amount of homework will vary according to student learning needs, year level, subject and point in learning sequence/unit. To assist students in achieving balance between homework, recreational activities and other commitments, the following pattern of homework/study is suggested:

Explore (Year 7)	30 – 60mins per weekday (not per subject, but all encompassing)
Enhance (Years 8 and 9)	45 – 90mins per weekday (not per subject, but all encompassing) – with more expected for Year 9 students than Year 8 students
Excel (Year 10)	90 – 120 mins per weekday (not per subject, but all encompassing)
Excel (Years 11 and 12)	120 – 150mins per weekday and up to 6 hours on the weekend. Note, at this level, students are expected to be independent learners and should be doing work when not set by the teacher – as a form of revision. School Assessed Coursework should all take place in class; however, homework could include research and preliminary activities to prepare students. Any course work learning happening outside of school must be monitored and authentication records completed.

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 Hampton Park Secondary 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 Hampton Park Secondary 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)
- check, assess and provide feedback on homework in a timely manner
- 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
- follow up with students and families where homework has not been completed
- provide scaffolding and supports if and where required, to support student access and learning success

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- record homework in their diary or on an electronic calendar
- ask questions if they are unsure about homework and its requirements
- 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, and review feedback to improve learning performance
- 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)
- complete all homework by the required due dates and submit to for feedback, to their teacher/s

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are:

- ensuring they have a Compass login to maintain communication with teachers and the college and up to date with all expectations, learning and learning tasks
- ensuring there is Wi-Fi access for the student(s) to access online work including Compass, Teams and the full Microsoft Package
- 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
- reinforcing homework without distraction, which includes social media, television and electronic devices
- supporting their child to access homework supports which can mean a tutor, or homework club at HPSC
- 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

Support For Students and Parents/Carers

Hampton Park Secondary College understands that students have different learning strengths, learning styles, 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.

Hampton Park Secondary College's Homework Club provides students with the opportunity to complete their homework and seek additional support outside of school hours. Homework Club is attended by teachers for a variety of subject areas and runs twice weekly.

Related Policies and Resources

[Homework: Policy](#) | [VIC.GOV.AU](#) | [Policy and Advisory Library](#)

Policy Review and Approval

Policy last reviewed	July 2025
Consultation	Teaching and Learning Team
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	July 2028