

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Brentwood Secondary College policy requirements relating to homework.

Scope

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Brentwood Secondary College

Rationale

Brentwood Secondary College believes homework to be an integral part of achieving our vision for learning.



Homework is an opportunity for parents to work in partnership in their child's education and support students progressing their learning growth and develop their skills in becoming active agents of their own learning.

Brentwood 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 apply and practice newly acquired skills and content
- providing opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons and assessments
- encouraging students to enrich or extend knowledge individually, collectively and imaginatively
- fostering good lifelong learning behaviours
- supporting learning partnerships between students, parents and teachers

Definitions

At Brentwood the term 'homework' refers to a range of meaningful learning activities that are designed to support learning growth beyond the classroom and demonstrate the college values for learning and community.

Values for Learning

Creativity Curiosity
Discipline Reflection
Resilience

Values for Community

Compassion Empathy
Integrity Respect
Responsibility

Learning Activities:

Prepare: Students should be taking active steps to prepare themselves for their learning. This includes:

- Reading and Liking the Lesson plans posted on their Class Team
- Completing any preparatory tasks e.g. pre-reading, engaging with Edrolo, research tasks
- Checking their planner for any upcoming assessments, school activities and events

Review: Students should be reflecting on their learning, identifying their strengths and areas for improvement. This includes:

- Consolidate students understanding by revising content from their learning activities
- Applying newly learnt skills to through practice activities
- Engaging with teacher feedback to understand the next steps in their learning. (Hyperlink to Feedback section for further details)
- Completing practice and preparation tasks for upcoming assessments

Extend: Students should seek to challenge and extend their learning through a range of teacher set and independently sourced activities. This includes:

- Further research on unit topics
- Participating in study groups
- Engaging with challenge/extension activities

Policy

Whilst homework is important, Brentwood advocates for the development of both the learner and the person. Students need to have balance in their lives between school, co-curricular activities, family time, as well as ensuring their health and wellbeing is paramount.

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.

Students should engage with regular homework throughout the school term. As they progress through their schooling, students can expect that the amount of homework tasks required to increase and reflect the expected level of independence and initiative required to be lifelong learners. Students may experience increased amount of work required ahead of and during assessment periods.

Teachers will minimise the amount of homework required of students in Years 7 – 9 to essential tasks only. Students may use holiday periods to refine and revise any key skills and knowledge.

Shared expectations and responsibilities

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students' and their parents/carers. To get the most out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Responsibilities and expectations for **leaders at Brentwood 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 Brentwood 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 progress student learning
- 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 at Brentwood Secondary College** 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
- being responsive to the feedback provided by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, co-curricular programs, 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
- communicating any concerns they have about the homework with either the students House Leader or Classroom Teacher
- engaging with Learning Conferences, Progress and Semester Reports, Learning Tasks on Compass and Assessment Schedules
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

Support for students and parents/carers

Brentwood Secondary 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 be engaging with any homework, understand the homework tasks that have been set or is spending an extended period of time completing their homework, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child’s teacher and/or House Leader to communicate any concerns.

Related policies and resources

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

Policy Renewal and Approval:

Policy last reviewed	24 July 2023
Consultation	School Council July 2023
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	July 2026 - 2027