



## HOMEWORK POLICY

### PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Mentone Girls' 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 Mentone Girls' Secondary College.

### RATIONALE

Homework and home study at Mentone Girls' Secondary College is an essential part of the school program and is intended to reinforce and extend learning initiated in the classroom.

### DEFINITIONS

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

### POLICY

At Mentone Girls' Secondary 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 set for students 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 Mentone Girls' 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 Mentone Girls' 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)
- 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.

## SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Mentone Girls' 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 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.

## HOMEWORK/STUDY GUIDELINES

There are different time expectations for different year levels. As a guide:

- Year 7 – 1 hour per week day/5 hours per week
- Year 8 – 1.5 hours per week day/7-8 hours per week
- Year 9 – 2 hours per week day/10 hours per week
- Year 10 – 2.5 hours per week day/12-13 hours per week
- Year 11 and 12 – 3 hours per week day/15 hours per week Expectations

**Note: the student planners provide subject-related guidelines for the type of home study recommended.**

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community on the school website.

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	2026