



Sunbury College Homework Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff Sunbury College's expectations for homework and at-home learning.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework.

RATIONALE

Sunbury College expects students to further develop and consolidate their independent learning skills by completing homework tasks. Homework has a positive effect on learning and is an important part of reinforcing the concepts that are introduced in class. It also plays a significant role in building work ethic, self-discipline and responsibility.

Homework supports classroom learning 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

Teachers at Sunbury College are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students. Homework assigned across different learning areas will be coordinated by Curriculum Committee to avoid unreasonable workloads for students

DEFINITIONS

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

POLICY

Teachers at Sunbury College are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students. Homework assigned across different learning areas will be coordinated by Year Level Coordinators to avoid unreasonable workloads for students.

Years 7 to 9

Homework tasks at these year levels may include daily independent reading, preparatory work for the next class, extended classwork, projects, essays, exercises and research.

Generally, students will be expected to spend between 45 to 90 minutes per day on homework tasks. Some tasks may be assigned to be completed during weekends and on the school holidays.

Years 10 to 12

Generally, students can expect homework tasks in these year levels to increase to take into account the expected level of independence and initiative of students.

At Year 11 and Year 12, students are expected to spend an increased amount of time completing homework tasks in preparation for VCE and VCAL.

Students can expect to spend between 1 to 3 hours of homework per weeknight, and further study on weekends during assessment periods.

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.

Sunbury College will support students by:

- fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools
- ensuring the homework is relevant, aligned to the curriculum and appropriate to the student's skills level and learning needs
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with a copy of the homework policy
- ensuring Compass is used to provide regular communication between parents and the school.

It is expected that teachers will:

- equip students with the skills to solve problems
- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- develop strategies within the school to support parents/carers becoming active partners in homework
- offer a range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning

- consider the needs of all students in their class. Clear instructions and tasks designed to reinforce the knowledge and skills taught during class time will maximise the learning opportunities for all students. To this end, some differentiation may be required for those students that may benefit from extension work, or tasks which better meet their individual learning needs.

It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing with their parents/carers homework expectations
- 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.
- using their school supplied diary or their electronic diary to record homework. It is recommended that the last five minutes of a lesson be spent recording tasks and asking questions for clarification. It is essential that all students clearly understand what is required. At home the diary should be used to create work checklists so that they are able to tick off tasks as completed.

It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- ensuring students keep a homework diary

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS / CARERS

Teachers at Sunbury College understand that students have different learning styles and interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set or that they are spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage you to speak to their teachers.

Students who may benefit from support completing their homework tasks are encouraged to attend study periods in the school library on Monday afternoons between 3:10 and 5pm. The library is also open from 8am to 9am and at lunchtimes each day for students to complete tasks.

Consequences

No doubt there will be times when, for genuine reasons, students are unable to complete their home learning. If this is known in advance, or a student has a note from a parent/carer explaining the situation, teachers can arrange an alternative submission date so that the student's opportunity to learn is not impaired. If there are concerns that need to be discussed, parents/carers and students should contact the classroom teacher or year level coordinator.

When a student does not complete their home learning / study, the following steps will be taken:

- If the task was listed on Compass, the non-completion will be noted
- If the non-submission results in a not satisfactory, parents/carers will be notified by phone or email
- Students may be required to attend a class catch up session during recess or lunch (maximum of half the allotted time) or afterschool (parents will be notified).

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	June 2022
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	June 2025