

MACINTYRE HIGH SCHOOL

HOMEWORK & STUDY POLICY

Rationale:

- Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.
- People forget around 90% of what they learn within the first day of learning it. Things that have been learned tend to be remembered for much longer when they are reviewed.
- Students who wish to do well at school need to develop the self-discipline to carry out regular reviews of concepts learned at school. Doing homework tasks and having a program of regular study are a big part of the review process and should lead to effective learning.

Aims:

- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To review classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop a responsibility for self-learning.

Implementation:

- All students in Year 7 will be allocated school diaries, students in Year 8 will have a choice between a traditional school diary and a web-based school diary, and students in Years 9-12 will have access to a web-based school diary.
- Homework, when set, should be appropriate to each student's skill level and stage of learning.
- Each set task should be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum.
- All homework activities should be recorded in student diaries, checked, and have feedback and appropriate support provided by the teacher.
- The amount and scheduling of homework should be flexible and take into account the circumstances of the individual student and their families.
- Homework will not simply be the completion of classroom exercises, but may expect a serious attempt at a selection of relevant exercises.

Stage 4 (Years 7 – 8)

- Homework will consist mainly of independent reading on a daily basis and tasks such as continuation of classroom work, worksheets, projects and assignments, essays, problem solving and research.
- Homework will generally be about 60 minutes per day four days per week in total. Individual subjects should not exceed 15-20 minutes.
- Homework should generally not be set during weekends or school vacations.

Stage 5 (Years 9 – 10)

- Homework will consist mainly of tasks such as reading, continuation of classroom work, worksheets, projects and assignments, essays, problem solving and research.
- Homework will generally be between 75 and 90 minutes per day five days per week, with assessment tasks being coordinated between teachers to avoid excessive workload. Individual subjects should not exceed 20-25 minutes.
- Homework should generally not be set during weekends or school vacations.

Stage 6 (Years 11 – 12)

- Homework will consist mainly of reading, research, assignments, assessments tasks and independent projects.
- Homework schedules will be discussed with each class. Assessment schedules will be discussed, emailed to each student and be available on the school website. Students will be expected to confirm receipt of assessment task schedules.
- Students will be provided with formal opportunities to build organisation and planning skills.
- Homework will generally increase from 90 minutes to 2-3 hours five days per week, with additional time needed during peak HSC periods. Individual subjects should not exceed 30-45 minutes. Some homework/study may be required during weekends or school vacations.
- Assessment tasks should be coordinated between teachers to avoid excessive workload, and no homework or assessment tasks should be mandated in the week leading up to examination periods.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last reviewed in ...

February 2016