



Princes Hill Secondary College

Homework Policy

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Princes Hill 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 Princes Hill Secondary College.

Rationale

Princes Hill 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.

This reflects our school value of **Achievement**; where we support students in striving to make the most of their opportunities to challenge themselves and meet their learning goals.

Definitions

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

Policy

At Princes Hill Secondary College we recognise the importance of homework in supporting students' studies through their secondary years while acknowledging the importance of balancing this with personal interests, family/community, part-time work, and other endeavours that support overall health and wellbeing. 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.

Middle School (Years 7 – 9)

We recommend that middle school students dedicate time consistently across the week to engage with the material studied in classes and complete homework set by their subject teachers. We understand that each student's approach and commitment to homework will vary.

Senior School (Years 10 – 12)

We recommend that senior school students make a commitment to organising their week to include designated times on most days to study and complete homework set by their subject teachers. Students enrolled in VCE subjects are expected to undertake up to 50 hours of self-directed learning per unit (semester), or approximately 2 - 3 hours per week.

For example, a typical VCE student enrolled in 5 – 6 subjects should dedicate 12 – 18 hours per week for homework.

Types of Homework

The types of homework that teachers at Princes Hill Secondary College could include are:

- completing consolidation exercises
- making or designing artworks
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising spelling, words, phrases, grammar, and reading in English or another language
- practising sports skills
- reading background material for a subject
- reading texts prior to class discussion
- reading for pleasure
- researching and investigating 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. To get the most out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Responsibilities and expectations for **leaders at Princes Hill 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 Princes Hill 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')
- require students to complete work they could not
- 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

Princes Hill 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. Parents/carers are also reminded to use Compass to assist with staying up to date with class newsfeed posts, learning tasks, and assessment calendars.

The following supports are offered to students:

- Study Sessions
- Maths Help
- Senior School Catch-Up

Communication

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school’s website
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at student forums

Related policies and resources

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)
- [VCAA VCE Administrative Handbook](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	September 2025
Consultation	Curriculum Committee, September 2025 Education Committee, September 2025 School Council, September 2025
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	September 2029