



## Homework Guidelines

### Introduction

St Joseph's College believes Homework is important to engage students in learning outside of the classroom. It carries the educational benefits of time management, organisation, rehearsal and reinforcement of learning, and an ability to think beyond what is taught in the classroom.

### Purpose

Homework helps students to:

- establish behaviour patterns involving work outside formal school time
- establish a habit of revising or studying work on a regular basis in order to improve retention, conceptualisation, recall, and understanding.
- consolidate and extend learning
- establish organisation skills which involve planning time in order to meet various commitments (personal, leisure, work deadlines, etc)
- complete work from that day's lesson
- prepare students for assessments including tests and exams

### Guidelines

Homework consists of two dimensions:

- Formal Homework- specific tasks set by teachers.
- Informal Study - personal revision, reading, etc.

### Responsibilities

The responsibility for Homework is shared between students, teachers, and parents.

#### a. School Responsibilities

- Setting achievable work regularly - The purpose of homework should be articulated and identified.
- When homework is assigned for practice, it should be structured around content with which students have a high degree of familiarity.
- Homework is assigned to prepare students for new content (eg prior reading) or to have them elaborate on content that has already been introduced in class.
- Provide Flipped learning opportunities at the Senior Level and access to online learning platforms eg Edrolo
- Monitoring student engagement in Homework and providing appropriate feedback when required
- Maintaining accurate records of homework set
- Set appropriate follow up for non-completion of Homework (eg lunchtime catch up, behavioral tracking, parent feedback etc)
- Providing recommendations for personal extension or on-going study/revision eg. summarising, reviewing work, watching TV programs, listening to radio broadcasts, reading magazines.

Note: Students who do not use class time appropriately may be expected to complete work from class at home, this would fall outside the general ours of a routine homework schedule.

**b. Family Responsibilities**

- To work together in setting schedules that allow for at least the recommended weekly time for work at home.
- To provide a setting that allows work to be done effectively.
- For parents to monitor student work regularly
- Parents are encouraged to take an interest and be involved in their child’s homework, but direct assistance should be kept to a minimum to develop independent learning.
- For parents and students to discuss the work at hand in order for encouragement to be given and as a means of keeping parents informed.

**Waterford**

The hours determined for an appropriate level of Homework is summarised below and is a guide for teachers when setting homework:

Year Level	Homework set per class	Time Allocation	Subjects Included in Homework Schedule
Year 7	10 minutes per class  Eg English has 4 classes a week for 4 x 10 mins = 40 minutes a week	60 minutes (5 times per week)  = 5 hours per week	English Mathematics Science Humanities Language Music / Band Elective subjects at Year 8
Year 8	10 minutes per class	60 minutes (5 times per week)  = 5 hours per week	Note: Some Practical based subjects may encourage skill development eg Food, Art

- Recording Homework - SJC Diary is a compulsory requirement at Waterford and students should be directed to use the diary to record Homework requirements and learning expectations
- Year 7 will have a gradual introduction to Homework, but a full program is encouraged by week 4.
- NIXOR English students will have reduced Homework expectations as per the ILP

**Westcourt**

The hours determined for an appropriate level of Homework is summarised below and is a guide for teachers when setting homework:

Year Level	Homework set per class	Time Allocation	Subjects Included in Homework Schedule
Year 9	15 minutes per class	90 minutes (5 times per week)  = 7.5 hours per week	English Humanities Mathematics Science Elective subjects

- Recording of Homework - SJC Diary is a compulsory requirement at Westcourt and students should be directed to use the diary to record Homework requirements and learning expectations.

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The hours determined for an appropriate level of Homework is summarised below and is a guide for teachers when setting homework:

Year Level	Homework set per class	Time Allocation	Subjects <u>NOT</u> included in Homework Schedule
Year 10	20 minutes	2 hours (5 times per week)  = 10 hours a week	Wellbeing Sport
Year 11	2.5 hours per VCE Unit 1&2 Subject over the week	2.5 hours per Unit over the week  approx 12.5 hours a week	Wellbeing Sport
Year 12	3-4 hours per VCE Unit 3&4 Subject over the week	3-4 hours per Unit over the week  approx 15 – 20 hours per week <u>*this includes study periods</u>	Wellbeing Touchstones

- Year 12 students have study periods in their timetable which is taken at school. Maximising this time at school is invaluable and provides an opportunity for homework to be done and may give the opportunity in the evenings for consolidation of skills in areas of revision, summaries and extended tasks.
- Year 11 students who study at least one Unit 3&4 subject should expect to allocate 3- 4 hours per week for each of these units, likewise Year 10 students who study at least one Units 1&2 subject should expect to allocate 2.5 hours per subject a week.

In summary the College recommends to students and parents the following hours of Homework per student at each Year level

- Year 7 – 5 hours per week
- Year 8 – 5 hours per week
- Year 9 – 7.5 hours we week
- Year 10 – 10 hours per week (this may vary if students have accelerated)
- Year 11 VCE Students – 12-13 hours per week
- Year 12 VCE Students – 15 - 20 hours per week

(Note: Students on individual learning plans will have adjustments made according to need)

## **Appendices**

VCE Time Commitment

[Pages - About VCE \(vcaa.vic.edu.au\)](https://vcaa.vic.edu.au) 03.09.22

Homework – Victorian Government

[Homework | Victorian Government \(www.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.vic.gov.au)