



<b>HOMWORK POLICY</b>		
<b>Policy No: ES6</b>	<b>Version No: 0.1</b>	
<b>Ratified:</b>	<b>Review Cycle: 4 year</b>	<b>Last Review:</b>
<b>Policy Owner: Assistant Principal - Teaching</b>		<b>Approver: Principal</b>

## PURPOSE

To outline to our school community, Fairhills High School’s policy requirements relating to homework, which is aligned with the Department Homework Policy Guidelines.

## SCOPE

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

## RATIONALE

Fairhills High School 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.

## DEFINITIONS

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

## POLICY

- At Fairhills High School 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.

### Years 7 & 8

Homework tasks at these year levels may include daily independent reading, extended classwork, projects, essays, exercises, research and revision. In addition to set homework tasks, they may be required to complete any unfinished classwork.

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

### Years 9 & 10

Homework tasks at these year levels may include daily independent reading, extended classwork, projects, essays, exercises, research, revision and practice exam papers. In addition to set homework tasks, they may be required to complete any unfinished classwork.

Generally, students will be expected to spend between 1-2 hours per day on homework tasks. Some tasks may be assigned to be completed during weekends and on the school holidays.

## **Years 11 & 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 their end of semester/year exams.

As per the VCAA policy students can expect to spend 3 hours per week for each VCE subject they undertake. This equates to 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. 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 Fairhills High School 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 Fairhills High School 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
- be receptive to student and parent feedback and requests
- be aware of physical and mental health recommendations.

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 from staff, parents/carers, and peers when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities, instrumental music practice 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**

Fairhills High School 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.

Students should consider advice disseminated in study skills and wellbeing sessions and also refer to any handouts/advice distributed regarding this.

Students who may benefit from support completing their homework tasks are encouraged to attend Homework Club, held in the school library on designated days of the week between 3.30 and 4.15pm. Details can be found on the School Website.

**RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

**VERSION CONTROL TABLE**

Version	Author	Date	Change Made
1.1	Toni Kirk	18 April 2023	updated title panel, added version and date to footer and added version control table