



## LAMBTON HIGH SCHOOL

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### HOMEWORK POLICY

#### AIMS AND PURPOSES OF HOMEWORK

Homework is an integral and valuable part of a student's learning program. Teachers set meaningful activities to extend, enrich and/or consolidate classroom learning. Homework provides students with opportunities to practice planning and organising time. This establishes the importance of learning to work at set tasks independently. It is also time when students can read and review work that has been covered in class thus establishing personal study habits.

Homework is intended to strengthen home-school links by emphasising the role of parents and caregivers as partners in education. Homework provides parents with an opportunity to gain an understanding of the skills, content and values being taught in the classroom.

#### PRINCIPLES

- Homework policy is developed in partnership with the school community.
- Homework should be challenging, purposeful and varied and set at an appropriate level for the student.
- The school recognises that students need to participate in family life, recreational pursuits and that some students may undertake part-time work. The amount of homework set will take into account these features of student life.
- Teachers will clearly explain to students' school expectations regarding the amount of homework and the quality of effort required.
- Wherever possible homework should recognise the place of technology in today's world. However set homework will not rely upon the use of technology only to achieve the desired outcomes so as students who do not have the technology at home will not be disadvantaged.
- Teachers will set regular homework, mark it promptly and provide quality feedback to students.
- Students are expected to take responsibility for their homework using it to develop the core skills of planning, inquiry skills and independent study.
- Where homework is not set specifically by the school there is an expectation that students will engage in review and revision of work done in class up to that point in time. Student initiated work strengthens student planning, learning and independence.
- The school will encourage parents and caregivers to support students by providing timely information and guidance.

#### TYPES OF HOMEWORK

The three main types of homework are:

- **Practice exercises** – providing students with the opportunity to apply new knowledge or review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills.
- **Preparatory homework** – providing students with the opportunity for students to gain background information on a unit of study in preparation for future lessons.
- **Extension homework** – encouraging students to individually research, read and enrich their learning.

#### AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK

As a general guide students should be engaged in homework as a minimum for:

**Stage 4 (Years 7 & 8):** 5-7 hours per week.

**Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10):** 8-10 hours per week

**Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12):** 10-15 hours per week

## **REGULARITY OF HOMEWORK**

It is expected that each school course will have homework requirements. Homework will be set at appropriate times during the course to enhance and consolidate classroom learning.

## **USE OF THE HOMEWORK DIARY**

All students are expected to keep and use a homework diary. Students will be assisted in learning how to use the diary in Year 7.

Teachers will encourage the use of the school diary by requiring given homework to be noted in it. Teachers and parents may use the diary as a communication vehicle about a student's learning.

## **MARKING OF HOMEWORK**

Homework could be marked in a variety of ways. These may include

- Completion only
- A mark provided by the teacher based on criteria provided to students before the homework was given
- Peer marking based on criteria provided to the students before the homework was given.

## **ROLE OF PRINCIPAL OR DELEGATE**

- Supervise the development and implementation of the Lambton High School homework policy in consultation with teachers, parents and students as appropriate.

## **ROLE OF HEAD TEACHER**

- Supervise the development and implementation of the LHS homework policy within their faculty.
- Evaluate the operation of the faculty policy at regular intervals to ensure that it is aligned with school policy.

## **ROLE OF TEACHER**

- Ensure students are aware of what is expected of them and how their work will be assessed.
- Set homework which allows students to demonstrate their capabilities and that challenges them to progress.
- Ensure homework is related to the coursework being done at school.
- Work to ensure that students use the school diary to record homework.
- Give students sufficient time to complete their homework with due regard to home obligations, extracurricular activities and homework set by other teachers.
- Mark homework promptly and appropriately.
- Provide meaningful feedback about the homework to students.
- Maintain student homework records.
- Communicate with parents about areas of concern related to homework.

## **ROLE OF STUDENT**

- Being aware of the school's homework policy.
- Maintain a homework record in their school diary for their teachers and parents.
- Completing homework within the given timeframe.
- Seeking assistance from teachers and parents when problems arise.
- Ensuring homework is of a high standard.

## **ROLE OF PARENT**

- Providing the student with time and a suitable place for homework.
- Encouraging and supporting students to complete homework.
- Writing a note to explain the reasons if homework is not completed.
- Assisting teachers to monitor homework by signing completed work if requested.
- Communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework and their child's approach to homework.
- Alerting the school to any domestic or extracurricular activities that may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or marked.