

# MELBOURNE HIGH SCHOOL

## HOMework POLICY



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school on 98260711 or at [mhs@mhs.vic.edu.au](mailto:mhs@mhs.vic.edu.au).

## PURPOSE

To outline to our school community the Department's and Melbourne High School'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 Melbourne High School

## RATIONALE

Melbourne 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. Homework may also involve student self-directed study outside of school hours.

## POLICY

At Melbourne 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.

The types of homework that teachers at Melbourne High School will set include:

- completing projects and class assignments
- composing essays
- completing group assignments
- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- completing science investigation exercises
- making or designing an artwork
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising sports skills
- practising words/phrases learnt in a language other than English
- reading background material for a subject
- reading English texts prior to class discussion
- reading for pleasure
- researching 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. 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 Melbourne 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.
- Monitor the amount of homework set for students to ensure compliance with school expectations.

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers at Melbourne 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
- monitor and assess/evaluate 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 to:

- to be aware of the school’s homework policy
- to discuss homework expectations with their parents/carers
- accept responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- follow up on comments made by teachers
- seek assistance when difficulties arise
- organise their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment
- Take personal responsibility for their homework.
- Prioritise homework set by Melbourne High School ahead of homework set by tutors.
- Note that the average minimum amount of homework that should be completed at Melbourne High School is as follows:
  - Year 9 — Approximately one to two hours each weeknight
  - Year 10 — Approximately two hours each weeknight
  - Year 11 — Approximately two to Two and a half hours each night
  - Year 12 — Approximately two to Three hours each night.

Students should expect the amount of work set to vary from week to week depending on the nature of the work that has been set and assessment requirements of each subject.

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are to:

- ensure there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- talk to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- discuss homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home,
- encourage their children to develop a positive work/life balance
- link 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.
- ensure there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

## SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Melbourne 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.

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August 2022
Consultation	Curriculum Committee 16/05/22 SLCs 30/08/22 – 6/08/22 (via Teams chat)
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	August 2026