



# BUCKLEY PARK COLLEGE

## Homework Policy

Developed: March 2014

Revised: August 2021

Review Date: August 2024

**Endorsed by school council: 16/08/2021**



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact a member of the Principal class on 9331 9999

### Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Buckley Park College's policy requirements relating to homework. This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Buckley Park College.

### Rationale

Buckley Park College believes that it is essential for all students to develop good study and homework habits. Effective homework can enhance student learning by helping engage students in learning beyond the classroom, allowing opportunities for independent practice, and by helping students to refine, deepen, and clarify their knowledge and understanding of their knowledge and skills.

Buckley Park College has developed this Homework Policy in consultation students, Domain leaders and 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
- Provide opportunities for students to consolidate skills learned in class
- 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.

### Implementation

At Buckley Park College all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- aligned to the GVC (guaranteed and viable curriculum)
- 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 Buckley Park College could include across the 8 learning areas:

- Presentation and oral practice
- completion of weekly Maths online tasks
- making progress and completion of work plans.
- research assignments
- CLT's preparation.
- Planning for practical application subjects.
- Folios, Trials and Annotations
- Edrolo videos and exam mastery
- Flipped classroom (watch a video and take notes).
- Language and Education perfect tasks
- Rehearsal of solo and group performances.
- Editing and design of folios
- revising/preparing for tests
- Reading/Notetaking
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising spelling words
- reading English texts prior to class discussion
- reading for pleasure
- researching topics associated with set class work

### **Shared Expectations**

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.

Buckley Park College aims to provide a consistent approach to Homework through an agreed approach for each of the learning Domain areas

Responsibilities and expectations for **leaders at Buckley Park 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 Buckley Park College** are to:

- consistent approach across the same year levels and classes as agreed by PLC's and Domains.
- ensuring homework is linked to ability and not necessarily the same for everyone. Providing extension opportunities where appropriate.
- setting realistic deadlines and following up on Homework completed and incomplete (consequences or hurdles where appropriate).
- link in with focus areas for the GVC
- ensuring dates and tasks are up to date in Compass.
- ensure homework tasks are purposeful – this means they are deliberately designed and planned to support student learning (so, this is not 'busy work' or not always assigned as 'finish off' work they did/could not complete in class)
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback on improvement areas
- 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:

- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames on a regular basis
- organising the homework tasks through the Study Planner or other format
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment (for older students)
- balance between completing homework tasks and undertaking study
- being aware of the school's homework policy and recommendations
- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- following up on comments made by teachers and seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- Students are encouraged to advise teachers of any issues prior to the next class.

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

- help students establish a routine for doing homework
- checking in on a student's progress and asking questions
- 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
- there will be occasions when a student is unable to complete homework due the next day because of family commitments or because they have experienced difficulties with the work. Parents are encouraged to advise teachers of these issues through Compass
- ensuring there is a s appropriate study area for their child to complete homework.

### **Recommendations for Time and Task Allocation**

Based on research and the DET guidelines, the recommended time allocated to homework for Buckley Park College students is:

Year 7	1 hour - five times per week
Year 8	1 hour - five times per week
Year 9	1.5 hours - five times per week
Year 10	1.5 hours - five times per week (increasing by 1-2 hours during peak times for CLTs)
Year 11	2 hours per night (increasing by 1-3 hours per night during busy times)
Year 12	2-3 hours per night (increasing by 1-3 hours per night during busy times and revision periods)

### **Further Considerations:**

- effective homework should have reasonable time requirements, a clear purpose, and clear alignment with identified learning goals.
- ensuring homework is linked to ability and not the same for everyone. The time allocation should be similar for all students as the specific tasks can extremely varied for students.
- providing extension opportunities where appropriate (allowing for additional tasks for students that complete homework early or require further challenge)
- reading for pleasure and school work should be a regular scheduled activity
- homework should be more about the quality than the quantity. Successful strategies include short bursts of 25 minutes with a 5 minute break.
- year 7's shouldn't be doing hours per day, but short bursts – building stamina.

- year 7 students are not expected to complete homework in the first 4 weeks of school. The focus is to familiarise with the secondary setting.
- setting up a more rigorous timetable for Year 12 VCE students during the holiday periods. Term 1: 2 hours a day, Term 2 4 hours, Term 3 6hours – 5 days a week.

### **Support for students and parents:**

Buckley Park 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.

Students who have difficulty with organisation may be provided with additional support, such as a homework timetable, via their Year Level Coordinator and/or subject teachers. Teachers may offer support via conferencing outside school time, and programs such as the Maths Homework club and Study Hall also exist to support students with homework tasks.

### **Related Policies**

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

### **Evaluation**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's 3-4 year review cycle.

