



Homework Policy

Truganina College

This policy reflects the DET *School Policy Advisory Guide* including school community consultation.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and College staff Truganina College's expectations for homework and at-home learning.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting homework.

POLICY

It is recognised that homework can help students by:

- Complementing and reinforcing classroom learning.
- Fostering good lifelong learning and study habits.
- Providing an opportunity for students to become responsible for their own learning.

As part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools, homework is seen as one way of supporting and fostering life-long learning and connecting families with the learning of their children.

This policy will be communicated to families on the school website and at information sessions for parents.

Homework should be:

- Purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum.
- Assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided to students.
- Scaffolded and appropriate to each student's level of development.
- Scheduled and communicated in a timely manner to parents.

Truganina College acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.

Teachers at Truganina College are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful. This will comprise of reading, consolidation of class work and Athletics.

It is expected that students will reach 300 nights of reading by the end of the school year.

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Suggested time allocations

Foundation to Year 4

In the early years, the objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time. It is also intended to introduce the concepts of self-discipline and responsibility and prepare students for the upper grades.

Assigned homework tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials.

Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/carer or older siblings. Students will read for 15 minutes each night and record their reading in their Reading Record book (Years Foundation to 2) or in their Student Planners (Years 3-4).

Students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Year 5 to Year 9

In the middle years, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students as they move through to senior secondary school.

Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading, where students read for 20 minutes and record their reading in their Student Planners. Students will also have class related homework, which may include extension assignments, class work, essays, research and Athletics.

Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Shared expectations and responsibilities

Homework is a shared responsibility between the College, 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.

Truganina College will support students by:

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- Fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools.
- Ensuring the College’s homework policy is relevant to the needs of students.
- Advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and providing them with a copy of the homework policy.
- Encouraging parents/carers of early years children to read to and with their children for enjoyment.
- Encouraging parents/carers of middle years children to develop reading motivation and stamina.
- Ensuring that middle years students use Student Planners to provide a regular communication between parents and the College.

Teachers at Truganina College will:

- Equip students with the skills to solve problems.
- Encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination.
- Set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students’ learning needs.
- Give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities.
- Assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support.
- Help students develop organisational and time-management skills.
- Ensure parents/carers are aware of the College’s homework policy.
- Develop strategies within the College to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework.
- Offer a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children’s learning.

It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own learning by:

- Being aware of the College’s homework policy.
- Discussing with their parents/carers homework expectations.
- Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames.
- Following up on feedback made by teachers.
- Seeking assistance when difficulties arise.
- Organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment.

It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by:

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- Developing a positive and productive approach to homework.
- Ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities.
- Reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity.
- Talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework.
- Attending the College events, productions or displays their child is involved in.
- Ensuring upper primary and secondary students communicate and record reading in the Student Planner.
- Discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences.
- Linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community.
- Ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks.

Support for students, parents and carers

Teachers at Truganina College understand that students have different learning styles and interests, and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set for him or her, or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage you to speak to your child's Classroom Teacher or Homeroom Teacher.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - [Homework Guidelines](#)
 - [Homework Expectations](#)

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on 16th December 2019 and is scheduled for review every three years.

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