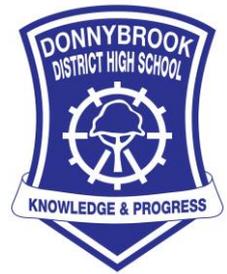


## Homework and Study Policy Donnybrook District High School



This Policy has been developed so that Teachers, Students and Parents/Carers are aware of the expectations around Homework and Study.

### **Rationale**

Donnybrook District High School supports the parental expectations that students at all year levels (PP-10) will be involved in targeted, purposeful and meaningful home learning. This home learning needs to meet the needs of an individual student and increase in complexity as the student moves through the school.

Homework is a joint responsibility between the school, the student and the home environment, with parents/carers and teachers supporting and encouraging students to complete set activities.

Students are responsible for completing homework activities, not parents/carers or teachers. It is important to remember that we are working to develop independent, self-disciplined and self-motivated learners. As parents/carers and teachers, our mutual aim should be to encourage students to take greater responsibility for learning.

### **Partnerships**

Supported by the school administration, the teachers' role is to work collaboratively with parents/carers to assist students to meet expectations around homework and study, with different approaches being considered for students where appropriate. Teachers will promote and support systems that allow students to plan, prepare for and remember homework, such as reading folders, calendars and homework diaries.. Homework will be complimentary to the classroom program, and teachers will assist students with concerns or issues about homework and/or long-term assignments.

To work effectively at home, students will need a quiet area in which to focus on their work. To get the most out of a homework and study session, students may need to ask clarifying questions of parents/carers and may need support and encouragement to complete their work. As students move into Secondary School, they should be encouraged to write these questions down and refer them to the teacher. This helps to build students' independence and confidence. The onus for completing homework falls on the student, but by working in partnership, parents/carers and our teachers can help children to build excellent homework and study habits.

It is expected that quantities of homework will not impinge on reasonable time for family, recreational and cultural pursuits, including children's after school chores, casual employment and free play. We recognise that parents/carers have varying views and expectations on homework and study, therefore parents/carers are welcome to discuss and negotiate homework requirements for their child/ren with teachers.

### **Homework and Study Guidelines**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Guidelines</b>	<b>Time</b>
PP	Including but not limited to; Reading, Sight Word Practice, Spelling Practice and Counting.	No recommended time. Capitalise on student interest in this area when it presents itself
1-2	Including but not limited to; Reading, Sight Word Practice, Spelling Practice and Counting.	10-20 minutes + Reading time 4 times per week
3-4	Including but not limited to; Reading, Sight Word Practice, Spelling Practice, Number Facts and Tables Practice.	20-30 minutes + Reading time 4 times per week
5-6	Including but not limited to; Reading, Spelling Practice, Number Facts and Tables Practice. In addition to this, an assignment per term to support Research skills.	20-30 minutes + Reading time 4-5 times per week

## Reading

Students in Primary years need to be practicing reading every day. They will begin by borrowing levelled readers from the school, and then progress to library books and books from home as their skills develop and consolidate.

Parents and carers of Primary students should still be reading to their children frequently, even if they are independent readers. This helps to increase a student's vocabulary and gives them access to texts they are not yet able to read well.

## Sight Words and Spelling

All Primary students will be working on sight words and/or spelling words in their classrooms. Students may be asked to practise reading and/or spelling these words. The 'Diana Rigg' Spelling program is employed throughout the Primary school and students are provided with list words they can practise at home by completing a 'Word Sort', and then by using a 'Look-Cover-Write-Check' system or having parents/carers calling out words for students to spell.

## Tables and Number Facts

Counting, both forwards and backwards, and skip counting (by twos, fives etc) can be done with children at any time (in the car etc). Basic facts are those mathematical facts that require instant recall, such as times tables, 'Friendly Numbers' (those that add together to make 10, 100 or 1000) and double and square numbers. Primary students may also be asked to practise Maths concepts taught in class.

Year	Guidelines	Time
7-9	Preparation for in class tasks, Assignment research, re-reading and note taking from class work to consolidate concepts.	45-60 minutes 4 times per week <i>Secondary students need to be encouraged and supported to read for pleasure on a regular basis</i>
10 ATAR	Preparation for in class tasks, Assignment research, re-reading and note taking from class work to consolidate concepts. Reading texts and support materials to extend background knowledge. <i>Please note Year 11 ATAR will require close to 120 minutes 6 times per week.</i>	90 minutes 4 times per week <i>Secondary students need to be encouraged and supported to read for pleasure on a regular basis</i>
10 VET	Preparation for in class tasks, preparing for assessments re-reading and note taking from class work to consolidate concepts.	60 minutes 4 times per week <i>Secondary students need to be encouraged and supported to read for pleasure on a regular basis</i>

## Home Study

This is the time that needs to be spent by Secondary students on test preparation, reading and revising concepts from that day's classes, and consolidating note-making techniques. Time spent by each student on Home Study will vary according to each student's strengths/weaknesses in particular areas.

## Assigned Work

This is work that has been set for completion outside of normal class time, and may include (but is not limited to)

- Completion of work that has been started in class. This will be specified by the teacher on a needs basis
- Research, preparation or specific tasks set by the teacher, including reading assigned novels
- Assignment work which is ongoing

Assigned work set by Secondary teachers contributes to a student's overall grade. Students are encouraged to hand in all assigned work by the due date. Late submission of work will result in a loss of marks.

## Review Of Homework and Study Policy

Staff will continually assess the Homework and Study Policy to ensure it suits the needs of all involved.

Parent feedback is sought periodically on the School's Homework and Study Policy and Procedures, for example at School Board or parent meetings, in order to support continuous improvement.