

 BERWICK COLLEGE POLICY	TITLE	HOMework		
	VERSION/YEAR	6/2025		
	PUBLISHED LOCATIONS	COMPASS, NEWSLETTER, WEBSITE		
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	REVIEWED BY	ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	APPROVED BY	PRINCIPAL
PURPOSE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that Berwick College policies and procedures accurately reflect the College operations, directions, educational philosophy and goals and meet all legislative, compliance and duty of care requirements. To provide policy and procedure direction to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Berwick College. 			
BACKGROUND:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Berwick College seeks to establish and maintain a high level of professional standards in relation to all activities within the College. This policy is in accord with the College's 'Mission Statement', 'Values' and 'Service Standards'. 			
RELATED DOCUMENTS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DET – Teaching and Learning - Parents DET – Homework Guidelines DET – Homework Expectations Berwick College Student Assessment policy 			

DEFINITIONS

Homework: tasks set by a teacher to assist students in meeting course requirements and to prepare them for assessment that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

Study: what a student works out they need to do themselves to improve their understanding and skills.

RATIONALE:

Berwick College 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 consolidate new knowledge and deepen understanding
- providing opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons
- encouraging students to enrich or extend knowledge individually, collectively and imaginatively
- providing opportunities for students to build responsibility through ownership and independence of learning
- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits.

POLICY

At Berwick College all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful and 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 Berwick College may include are:

- completing consolidation exercises for mathematics
- completing science investigation reports
- making or designing an artwork
- practising and playing musical instruments
- practising spelling words
- 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 assessments
- applying new skills to a new context
- involving parents/carers in learning activities.

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** 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** 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 (no 'busy work')
- assess 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:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- following up on feedback provided 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 (for older students).

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

- ensuring there is a balance between time spent on homework/study and recreational, family and cultural activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework/study
- discussing homework/study with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken,
- in dialogue, linking homework/study 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.
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework/study.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS:

Berwick College understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach homework/study 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/study, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child's subject teacher or Year Level Leader.

Since students work at different rates and have different strengths and weaknesses, the following times per week are recommended as a guide for homework/study:

- Years 7 to 9: 2 hours per week
- Year 10: 4+ hours per week
- Year 11 10+ hours per week
- Year 12: 13+ hours per week, including school holidays

EVALUATION:

- This policy will be reviewed every three years.