

Secondary School Home Learning Policy

Students actively engage in learning during their school day. Home learning is always connected to learning in the classroom, and can support students to consolidate, extend and develop their knowledge, skills and understandings.

Individual students work at different rates and in different ways and there may be variations at different times of the year as teachers match home learning to the needs of their class and of individuals. Students might need to review or to consolidate learning from the day, work on an extended assignment or prepare for an assessment. Homework is not set as extra learning or separate from the learning in the class.

Home learning may include:

- Practice to reinforce skills or knowledge
- Previewing or reviewing learning materials
- Consolidating learning and the development of skills
- Preparation and practice to demonstrate learning through tests and assessments
- Working on extended assignments with scaffolded steps and processes

Guidelines for home learning:

- No home learning is assigned to be completed exclusively over school holidays or long weekends with an exception for summer holiday for students between Grade 11 and Grade 12.
- No more than two summative assessments should be scheduled on any one school day.
- There should be at least one week advance notification of a major test/assessment given to students, with relevant review or practice materials.

Middle School

Home learning is generally not assigned for Middle School students. However, when set, home learning should be time-based rather than to complete a task, for example students spend 15-20 minutes consolidating learning or practicing a skill, rather than 'complete a task' or 'finishing work'.



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High School

If students need to consolidate or review learning from the unit, home learning can be set, though is not required. This may include preparing for an assessment, long term assignments and practicing specific skills in context of the unit.

Grade 9: up to 20 minutes per day per subject period taught that day.

Grade 10: up to 20 minutes per day per subject period taught that day.

Grade 11: up to 30 minutes per day per subject period taught that day.

Grade 12: up to 30 minutes per day per subject period taught that day.

For Grade 11 and 12 students, this may be separate from student-directed completion of major assignments, Internal Assessments, or review in advance of tests and assessments.

At all grade levels, we ask that teachers and students engage in meaningful discussions about existing home learning and assessments and to establish realistic deadlines and timeframes. We also ask students to plan ahead and organize themselves to manage their home learning effectively and successfully. Students are encouraged to seek help when developing skills to manage home learning, and this can be through their subject teacher, home room teacher, counselor or vice-principal.

We encourage parents and teachers to work in partnership when students are finding it challenging to meet deadlines and complete home learning engagements. Contacting the teacher of the subject is the first step to clarify expectations and support the student. Homeroom teachers and the MS and HS Vice-Principals can support discussions and actions for students and families.