

Home Learning Policy



Help for non-English speakers. If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the general office.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and staff the college's expectations for homework/home learning.

SCOPE

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

POLICY

Bundoora Secondary College expects students to further develop and consolidate their independent learning skills by completing home learning tasks. Home learning has a positive effect on learning and is an important part of reinforcing the concepts that are introduced in class. It also plays a significant role in building work ethic, self-discipline and responsibility.

Teachers at Bundoora Secondary College are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students (according to the guidelines listed below). Home learning assigned across different learning areas will be coordinated by curriculum leaders, to avoid unreasonable workloads for students.

Entry students

Home learning tasks at these year levels may include daily independent reading, extended classwork, projects, essays, exercises and research.

Generally, students will be expected to spend less than 30 minutes per day on home learning tasks if they are making good use of time and supports during class.

PACE21 (PACE 1,2,3) students

Home learning tasks at these year levels may include daily independent reading, extended classwork, projects, essays, exercises and research.

Generally, students will be expected to spend less than 60 minutes per day on home learning tasks if they are making good use of time and supports during class. Some tasks may be assigned to be completed during weekends and on the school holidays. Students completing a VCE subject while still in PACE21 are expected to spend an increased amount of time on home learning tasks.

Pre-Graduate / Graduate students

Generally, students can expect home learning tasks in these year levels to increase to take into account the expected level of independence and initiative of students.

At Year 11 and Year 12, students are expected to spend an increased amount of time completing home learning tasks as part of VCE and VCAL.

Students can expect to spend between 1 to 3 hours of home learning per weeknight, and further study on weekends during assessment periods.

Shared expectations and responsibilities

Home learning is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. In order to get the most out of home learning tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Bundoora Secondary College will support students by:

- 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 school's home learning policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of home learning expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with a copy of the home learning policy
- develop strategies within the school to support parents/carers becoming active partners in home learning

It is expected that teachers 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 home learning, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assess home learning and provide timely and practical feedback and support
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- 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 school's home learning policy
- discussing with their parents/carers the home learning expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of home learning tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments 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:

- developing a positive and productive approach to home learning
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on home learning 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 home learning
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- discussing home learning with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences
- linking home learning 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 home learning tasks.

Support for students, parents and carers

Teachers at Bundoora Secondary College understand that students have different learning styles and interests and may approach learning activities and home learning differently. If parents are concerned that their child may not understand the home learning tasks that have been set, or that they are spending a long period of time completing their home learning, they are encouraged to speak to class or PAL teachers. Students who may benefit from support completing their home learning tasks are encouraged to access assistance during Personal Best time and other study groups provided by the College.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Department of Education and Training. Records Management – Homework Policy
<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/homework/policy>

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on school website
- Included in staff induction processes and the staff handbook
- Periodically referenced in our eNewsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	April 2022
Approved by	Pending
Next scheduled review date	2023