



HOMWORK & STUDY POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Brookside P-9 College on (03)7379 1555.

PURPOSE

To outline to our school community Brookside P-9 College's policy requirements relating to homework.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Brookside P-9 College.

RATIONALE

All Victorian Government schools must have a documented approach to homework which takes into account the personal and developmental needs of students.

As part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum, homework at Brookside P-9 College is seen as one way of supporting and fostering life-long learning and connecting families with the learning of their children.

Brookside P-9 College has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council to support student learning and wellbeing. The policy outlines how Brookside P-9 College seeks to foster good life-long learning and study habits, the importance of administering level-appropriate homework to students, and the different types of homework that may be undertaken.

At Brookside P-9 College, the setting of homework takes into consideration the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle.

DEFINITIONS

Homework is tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

POLICY

At Brookside P-9 College homework:

- involves communication between teachers; between teachers and students and parents/carers
- relates to what is being taught in the classroom
- sets up an element of challenge
- may provide individualised activities/plans, aligned with individualised learning styles and abilities
- receives appropriate assessment and feedback.

Prep to Year 2

Homework will:

- consist of reading to, with and by parents/carers or older siblings
- enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials in an enjoyable way
- allow for the social development of skills by assisting with tasks in the home
- not required to be completed on weekends or during school holidays
- generally not exceed 30 minutes a day
- P-2 homework will be set each week and allow flexibility for families to complete tasks over the weekend if desired
- refer to Appendix 1 for homework expectations
- refer to Appendix 2 for example Daily P-2 Student Homework Timetable.

Year 3 to Year 4

Homework will:

- consist of reading to, with and by parents/carers or older siblings
- be provided on a regular basis as an extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials in an enjoyable way
- allow for the social development of skills by assisting with tasks in the home
- not required to be completed on weekends or during school holidays
- generally not exceed 30 minutes a day
- Year 3-4 homework will be set each week and allow flexibility for families to complete tasks over the weekend if desired
- refer to Appendix 1 for homework expectations
- refer to Appendix 2 for example Daily 3-4 Student Homework Timetable.

Year 5 to Year 6

Homework will:

- include daily independent reading and related literacy learning
- include extension of class work, projects, assignments and research when relevant
- generally range between 30-45 minutes a day
- Year 5-6 homework will be set each week and allow flexibility for families to complete tasks over the weekend if desired
- refer to Appendix 1 for homework expectations.
- refer to Appendix 2 for example Daily 5-6 Student Homework Timetable.

Year 7 to Year 9

Generally, students will be expected to spend between 45 to 90 minutes per day on homework tasks. Some tasks may be assigned to be completed during weekends and on the school holidays.

Homework will:

- include independent reading
- include extension of class work, projects, assignments and research
- be coordinated by teaching teams
- must not be set during any week allocated to another subject
- completion of class tasks will be considered separately to set homework tasks - where ample time has been given for the completion of set class work, finishing tasks become the responsibility of the student
- skills including time management and organisation will be explicitly taught
- homework calendars for each of Years 7, 8 & 9 will be designed with the intention of ensuring students are not overwhelmed with homework and study expectations, and will be adhered to by all staff.

*****Note: Homework calendars will be communicated to Year 7, 8, 9 students at the beginning of each school year.**

SHARED EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Our approach to homework is underpinned by a shared understanding of effective, evidence-based practice and is regularly monitored through feedback from teachers, students, parents/carers and the College Council as appropriate.

Teachers support students by:

- equipping students with the skills to solve problems
- encouraging real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assessing homework and providing timely and practical feedback and support
- helping students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensuring parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- communicating with the child's parent/carer with any study concerns

- developing strategies within the school to support parents/carers becoming active partners in homework
- offering a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children’s learning
- provide opportunities for students to seek support via Study Club.

Parents support students by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- asking how homework, study and class work is progressing, and acknowledging success
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- communicating with your child’s teachers about any homework and study concerns
- attending the school events, productions or displays your child is involved in
- ensuring upper primary and secondary students keep a homework diary
- discussing homework with your 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, associates and community groups
- encouraging your child to study every day, rather than for the whole day before a test.

Students take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school’s homework policy
- discussing with their parents or caregivers homework expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework 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.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Brookside P-9 College understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and homework 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, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child’s teacher.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school’s website
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

Primary

Parents should regularly refer to Compass for information regarding their child’s homework. Updates regarding your child’s learning will be shared via SeeSaw.

Secondary

Parents should regularly refer to Compass for information regarding their child’s homework and learning.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	18 October 2022
Consultation	Brookside School Council
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	18 October 2026

APPENDIX 1

Year P-6 Weekly Homework Expectations

Prep to Year 2

Year Level	Reading (Non-optional)	Spelling (Non-optional)	English (Non-optional)	Mathematics (Non-optional)	Additional Tasks
Prep	Home Reading 15mins a night (student reading journal to be signed each night)	Practise 'Tricky Words' (words provided based on individual need)	1 task provided supports practising of 'Tricky Words' and weekly Reading/Writing Focus Optional Reading Eggs Task	1-3 Mathematics Task provided each week consolidating classroom learning	Additional tasks when required that provide opportunity to gather extra information or materials in an enjoyable way or allow for social development
Year 1	Home Reading 15mins a night (student reading journal to be signed each night)	Practise 'Tricky Words' (words provided based on individual need)	1 task provided supports practising of 'Tricky Words' and weekly Reading/Writing Focus Optional Reading Eggs Task	1-3 Mathematics Task provided each week consolidating classroom learning	Additional tasks when required that provide opportunity to gather extra information or materials in an enjoyable way or allow for social development
Year 2	Home Reading 15mins a night (student reading journal to be signed each night)	Practise 'Tricky Words' (words provided based on individual need)	1 task provided supports practising of 'Tricky Words' and weekly Reading/Writing Focus Optional Reading Eggs Task	1-3 Mathematics Task provided each week consolidating classroom learning	Additional tasks when required that provide opportunity to gather extra information or materials in an enjoyable way or allow for social development

Year 3 to Year 6

Year Level	Reading (Non-optional)	English (Non-optional)	Mathematics (Non-optional)	Additional Tasks
Year 3	Home Reading 20mins a night (student diaries to be signed each night)	1 task provided supporting Reading/Writing Focus Optional Reading Eggs Task	1-3 Mathletics Task provided each week consolidating classroom learning	Additional tasks when required that provide opportunity to gather extra information or materials in an enjoyable way or allow for social development
Year 4	Home Reading 20mins a night (student diaries to be signed each night)	1 task provided supporting Reading/Writing Focus Optional Reading Eggs Task	1-3 Mathletics Task provided each week consolidating classroom learning	Additional tasks when required that provide opportunity to gather extra information or materials in an enjoyable way or allow for social development
Year 5	Home Reading 20mins a night – leaving tracks (student diaries to be signed each night)	1 task provided supporting Reading/Writing Focus Optional Reading Eggs Task	1-3 Mathletics Task provided each week consolidating classroom learning	Additional tasks when required that provide opportunity for projects, assignments or research
Year 6	Home Reading 20mins a night – leaving tracks (student diaries to be signed each night)	1 task provided supporting Reading/Writing Focus Optional Reading Eggs Task	1-3 Mathletics Task provided each week consolidating classroom learning	Additional tasks when required that provide opportunity for projects, assignments or research

APPENDIX 2

Example Daily P-2 Student Homework Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Home Reading	Home Reading	Home Reading	Home Reading	Home Reading	No set homework on weekends	
Practise 'Tricky Words'	Practise 'Tricky Words'	Practise 'Tricky Words'	Practise 'Tricky Words'	Practise 'Tricky Words'		
Mathletics Task	Mathletics Task continued	English Task	English Task continued	Allocated additional Task		

Example Daily 3-4 Student Homework Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Home Reading	Home Reading	Home Reading	Home Reading	Home Reading	No set homework on weekends	
Mathletics Task	Reading Eggs Task	Writing Activity	Allocated additional task	Homework catch up		

Example Daily 5-6 Student Homework Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Home Reading	Home Reading	Home Reading	Home Reading	Home Reading	No set homework on weekends	
Mathletics Task	Reading Eggs Task	Writing Activity	Allocated project, assignment or research time	Homework catch up		