

## HOMEWORK POLICY (YEARS 7-12)



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the College via email at [western.port.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:western.port.sc@education.vic.gov.au) or on 5979 1577.

### PURPOSE

This policy outlines Western Port Secondary College's approach to homework. It aims to:

- Support students in developing independent and effective study habits.
- Provide clear expectations for students, staff and parents/carers.
- Ensure a fair and structured approach in managing incomplete or non-satisfactory work.
- Foster accountability, resilience and positive learning behaviours.
- Strengthen the partnership between home and school to support learning.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to all students in Years 7-12, their teachers and parents/carers. It recognises that homework expectations will differ according to year level, subject area and individual student needs.

### HOMEWORK

**Homework** refers to tasks assigned by teachers to be completed outside class time to review, consolidate or extend learning.

Homework supports and reinforces classroom learning, helps students develop independent study habits and strengthens the partnership between home and school. It supports the development of independent learning skills, time management, and responsibility.

Types of homework may include:

- **Practice:** Reinforcing skills taught in class
- **Preparation:** Reading or researching topics ahead of lessons
- **Extension:** Applying skills to new contexts or problem-solving tasks
- **Revision/Study:** Reviewing classwork, preparing for tests or assessments

In the context of this policy, homework does not refer to the completion of unfinished classwork. It is an expectation that students complete any classwork that is not finished during lesson time; this is separate from designated homework.

The following table outlines the *minimum* weekly homework hours per year level:

LEVEL	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12
Recommended hours per week of homework	1 hour (Math & English only - 30 mins per subject)	1.5 hours (Math & English only - 45 mins per subject)	2 hours (30 mins per core subject)	3 hours (30 mins per subject)	5 hours (1 hour per subject of directed homework)	5-10 hours (1-2 hours per subject of directed homework)

Note: These times are *guidelines* and may vary depending on assessment periods, individual student capacity and subject requirements.

## POLICY EXPECTATIONS

Homework set by teachers at Western Port Secondary College will be:

- Purposeful, relevant and aligned with the curriculum.
- Appropriate to each student's age, ability and stage of learning.
- Designed to develop independent and responsible learning habits.
- Monitored by teachers, with timely feedback provided.
- Balanced with students' family, cultural and recreational commitments.

## SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. To get the most out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

### Responsibilities and expectations for:

- **Staff Leaders** at Western Port Secondary College 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.
  - Support the consistent implementation of the Homework Policy and associated follow-up procedures across learning areas.
- **Teachers** at Western Port Secondary College 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 (so, they are not 'busy work' or where students 'finish off' work they did/could not complete in class).
  - 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/or cultural activities outside of school hours.
  - Offer opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.
  - Support the consistent implementation of the Homework Policy and associated follow-up procedures across learning areas.
- **Students** at Western Port Secondary College are to:
  - Be aware of the school's homework policy.
  - Discuss homework expectations with their parents/carers.
  - Accept responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames.
  - Follows up on feedback provided by teachers.
  - Seeks assistance when difficulties arise.
  - Organise their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational, cultural activities and casual employment.

## COMMUNICATION AND RECORDING

- Homework expectations and due dates will be communicated via the Compass online platform.
- Teachers will provide feedback on completion and quality where appropriate.
- Students and parents can access homework details and progress on Compass.

## COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school website.
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training.
- Included in staff handbook/manual.
- Included in transition and enrolment packs.
- Reminders in our school newsletter.

- Hard copy available from school administration upon request.

The policy aligns with the Victorian Department of Education - Homework Guidelines and supports the Victorian Curriculum and VCE/VM pathways.

Policy last reviewed	November 2025
Approved by	Principal Class
Next scheduled review date	November 2027