**Daylesford Secondary College No. 7115**

**Homework Policy**

**RATIONALE**
Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. Homework is also an opportunity for parents to participate in their child’s education.

**AIMS**
- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop a responsibility for self-learning.

**IMPLEMENTATION**
- The school’s homework policy will be distributed to parents and students at the commencement of each school year and its importance will be emphasised throughout the year in other ways.
- All students will be allocated their own planner. It is recommended that parents check the planner on a regular basis as it is used to communicate homework activities, tests and assignments.
- Students will be provided with formal opportunities to build organisation and planning skills.
- Develop strategies to support parents to become active partners in homework eg provide tips for families on how they can support, monitor and discuss schoolwork at home.
- Failure to complete homework on a regular basis is followed up with parents as soon as practical to identify the reasons for non-completion.
- Identify and support students and families unable to complete homework at home.
- Homework tasks will be appropriate to each child’s skill level and age.
- All homework activities must be assessed with feedback and support provided by teachers.
- It is the responsibility of the student to collect and complete homework when they are absent from class.
- The school will take into account technology such as email and the Internet but ensure that students without access are not disadvantaged.
- Give priority to library resources for students completing homework.
- The school’s website will provide details of additional open ended challenges that are appropriate to students of a variety of ages, which students may choose to embrace.
- The college will collaborate with community organisations and agencies to promote and encourage the completion of homework.
- If learning a musical instrument, students should be practicing and playing their instrument on a regular basis. (Eg- 5 days per week)
**Junior School (Years 7 – 9)**
Homework will consist mainly of:
- Independent reading on a daily basis
- Tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, essays and research.

Homework will generally be between 45 and 90 minutes per day, must be coordinated between teachers to avoid excessive workload, and may be set during weekends and school vacations.

**Senior School (Year 10 – Year 12)**
Homework will consist mainly of Reading, research, assignments, assessments tasks and independent projects.

Homework schedules will be discussed with each student individually, with opportunities being made for parents to discuss homework issues with the school.

Homework will generally increase from 90 minutes to 3 hours per weeknight with up to 6 hours on weekends during peak VCE periods.

Students need to negotiate with their teachers if they require assistance outside of scheduled class times.

It is commonplace for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS & REFERENCES**
- Effective Schools are Engaging Schools - Student Engagement Policy Guidelines, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD)
- Family - School Partnerships Framework - A guide for schools and families, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR)

**EVALUATION**
- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s regular review cycle.

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