



Homework and Study Policy 2023

Purpose of Homework

Purposeful homework can be to preview work for next lesson, deepen knowledge and practice a skill or process (Marzano, 2017, p60).

'Homework can help your child practise the skills they are learning at school and learn time management and organisational skills. Homework also gives you the chance to see what your child is learning about at school. When you show interest in your child's homework, you are letting your child know that you value learning and education'

(Queensland Government, Spark Their Future)

Timing and Frequency

In Years 7, 8 and 9, students should be given more responsibility for their own learning. They can be required to engage in independent learning to complement work undertaken in class. Homework at Sandgate District State High School might be set via a traditional handout, bookwork, or digital means.

In the Senior Phase, Years 10, 11 and 12, the amount of time devoted to homework and independent study will vary according to the student's learning needs and individual program of learning, determined through their Senior Education and Training (SET) Plan. However, students studying for tertiary education can expect to average 3 hours of homework per week night.

Generally speaking, students should be completing the following amount of homework per subject per week:

Year 7	45 minutes
Year 8	1 hour
Year 9	1 – 1.5 hours
Year 10	1.5 hours
Year 11	2 – 2.5 hours (depending on course of study)
Year 12	3 hours (depending on course of study)

If homework does not appear to have been set there are a number of activities students can engage in to enhance and reinforce their learning, such as:

- Reading every night – highly recommended habit to form. Reading for pleasure is a key indicator of success in learning (UK Department of Education, 2012, Education Standards Research Team, [Reading evidence on reading for pleasure](#))
- Set worksheets provided by teachers to reinforce the learning undertaken during the unit
- Assignments – planning out over a longer period of time and completing in sections
- Forward reading for the next unit of work – e.g. reading through the next chapter in science



- Completing exercises set in class that day
- Reviewing concepts and skills learnt for that day
- Engaging in the online text book activities and quizzes
- Organising notebooks, gluing in handouts and worksheets, underlining titles etc.

Study Environment

NOISE: Move out of the range of TV and radio, unless you find this helpful.

LIGHT: A strong even white light from above and behind will help avoid unnecessary tiredness.

FURNITURE: A straight backed chair and a table of good height help posture.

PRIVACY: This prevents you being distracted by people moving about.

TIDINESS: A muddled room and table may indicate a muddled approach to study.

PLACE: Make a habit of using the same room, same table and same chair.

Technology Considerations for localised emergencies and stay-at-home recommendations

In the event of a health or weather emergency, the school is prepared for transition to online learning. If this occurs, the advice regarding a stable and quiet learning environment as mentioned above still applies. Online platforms such as Stile, SharePoint, OneNote and MS Teams will be used, and QLearn as it rolls out in 2023 and beyond. Families should consult the Laptop Charter regarding device selection and the school's BYOx and School-Owned Laptop options.

The school will be in regular communication to both students and parents and carers if at-home learning measures are advised by local or state governments.

Extended Absences

In the event of a personal extended absence longer than three weeks, a school exemption form should be completed and submitted to the school for Principal approval. For students on holidays during term time or students being kept at home for reasons others than health issues, the school is not under obligation to provide extra work. For senior students where study at home may contribute to their QCE and ATAR progress, applying for Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments (AARA) may be necessary, available on the school website and the student intranet.



Students need to:

- record all homework and due dates for assessment in their Connect planner
- discuss homework expectations and tasks with their parents or caregivers
- organise their time to manage and balance home expectations, participation in physical activity and sport, cultural and recreational activities and part-time employment commitments
- complete homework tasks within set time frames
- seek assistance in a timely manner when difficulties arise
- follow up on comments made by teachers.

Teachers will:

- set homework that is purposeful, varied, challenging and related to classroom learning on a regular basis (in-line with Marzano, 2007, 2017)
- explicitly teach strategies to develop organisation and time-management skills
- give consideration for students to have a balanced lifestyle
- check homework regularly and provide timely and useful feedback
- communicate with parents and carers any problems students experience with homework and suggest strategies to assist.

Parents and Carers can help by

- Establishing a routine so homework becomes a regular part of their day/week.
- Understanding how your child learns
- Ensuring there is a space for your child to complete homework. Ask yourself: is this best completed at the kitchen table, where they can be monitored or assisted, or in a private space so they have no interruptions? Should phones be away or nearby?
- Helping them get organised -do they need their school planner checked, should they use an Outlook or digital calendar?
- Encouraging your child when they make an effort
- Seeking help from the school if your child needs it.

For more information:

<https://www.sparktheirfuture.qld.edu.au/homework/>

<https://www.sparktheirfuture.qld.edu.au/homework-help/>