

Homework Policy

CONTEXT STATEMENT

The classroom is often the place where learning activities begin. Knowledge and understanding is generally achieved when students review the work introduced in class, test their understanding, undertake additional research and/or extend their reading. Homework is an integral part of all students' learning. It provides an opportunity for students to practise and independently reinforce what they have learnt in class and to extend their learning. At the secondary level, homework provides students with opportunities to deepen their knowledge, skills and understandings and to develop consistent and independent study habits away from the regulated routine of school. At the senior secondary level, students need to increasingly develop their capacity to manage, organise and further their learning and to meet assessment deadlines.

UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS, PHILOSOPHY & RATIONALE

At Samaritan College we acknowledge homework:

Provides opportunities for students to consolidate material discussed and taught in class, and develop sound study routines and habits as well as good organisational and time management skills as they become confident and independent learners. Homework should:

- Reinforce work already covered;
- Be appropriate to the student's level of ability;
- Be appropriate in terms of the time allocation;
- Be consistent and predictable;
- Have clear and explicit expectations;
- Consider the individual needs of the student;
- Enable students to increasingly develop sound study routines and independent study habits and the capacity to manage and organise their learning to meet assessment deadlines.

PURPOSES / AIMS

Through the application of this policy, Samaritan College will:

- Support and encourage the learning of students;
- Provide opportunities for students to develop good study habits and routines;
- Provide opportunities for the development of independent learning strategies.

GUIDELINES & PROCEDURE

In support of this policy Samaritan College will aim to:

- Develop in students an enthusiasm for learning;
- Develop independence in student learning;
- Provide consistent, relevant homework guidelines for all students.

The Co Principals will:

- Provide clear and explicit expectations concerning homework;
- Support the teaching of a differentiated curriculum to meet the learning needs of students.

The Staff will:

- Encourage in students an enthusiasm for learning through the development of learning tasks and activities which motive and engage students;
- Provide clear and explicit expectations and guidelines regarding homework tasks;
- Support the learning needs of students by setting appropriate tasks for homework and the timeframe for completing tasks;
- Provide information and feedback to students regarding their learning;
- Assist students to develop good study habits and routines;
- Assist students to develop time and organisational management strategies and skills ;
- Assist students to become independent learners;
- Ensure the amount of homework set is appropriate and manageable for students.

The Students will:

- Complete homework tasks set;
- Seek support and the assistance of teachers to achieve to the best of their ability;
- Develop good study habits and routines;
- Develop sound time management and organisational skills;
- Develop independence in their learning.

The Parents/Caregivers will:

- Support their child by designating an appropriate, quiet and supportive learning environment which has adequate lighting and a suitable surface space in which homework is able to be completed;
- Assist their child to develop good routines, sound organisational and time management skills;
- Encourage their child to develop independence in their learning;
- Monitor that the amount of homework set is appropriate and manageable.

The College Board will:

- Participate in the development, implementation and review of this policy.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Samaritan College Vision Statement
- Samaritan College Student Diary
- Samaritan College Newsletter and Website

ADMINISTRATION

This policy will be reviewed triennially by the College, unless otherwise required.

Signed:	Co Principal
.....	Co Principal
.....	Chair of College Board
Date:	Ratified and Implemented
Review Date: April 2017	

ATTACHMENT TO THE HOMEWORK POLICY

Suggested Homework time allocation guidelines:

PRIMARY YEARS

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2	Maximum of 10 minutes reading each evening;
Year 3	Maximum of 20 minutes including 10 minutes reading each evening;
Year 4 and Year 5	Maximum 30 minutes including 10 minutes reading each evening;
Year 6 and Year 7	Maximum 40 minutes including 10 minutes reading each evening.

SECONDARY YEARS

The recommended minimum amount of time for study at each Year Level is:

	Monday to Thursday	Weekends
Year 8	80 minutes each night	80 minutes
Year 9	100 minutes each night	120 minutes
Year 10	125 minutes each night	150 minutes
Year 11 (Stage 1)	10-14 hours per week	
Year 12 (Stage 2)	15-20 hours per week	