HOMEWORK POLICY 2024 - 2028

Help for non-English speakers
If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please email the General Office cranbourne.east.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Rationale:

Homework can benefit students by complementing classroom learning, encouraging good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be organised and responsible for their own learning.

Cranbourne East Secondary College has developed this Homework Policy to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- providing opportunities for students to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills
- providing opportunities for students to apply new knowledge
- providing opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons
- encouraging students to enrich or extend knowledge individually, collectively and imaginatively
- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers.

Objectives:

- To use homework to assist students to develop effective study habits
- To provide homework activities that support classroom learning

Rational:

Types of homework assigned

- *Completing unfinished work* – these tasks have been explained and started in the classroom. This type of homework is often set if the student has not used the set time effectively to complete the task during class time.
- *Designated learning activities* – these tasks may include worksheets, research tasks or projects. This type of homework provides the students a chance to practice applying the skills they have learnt in the classroom.
- *Preparation and study activities* – these tasks involve the students revisiting skills and content that they have learnt. Study activities may include: reading over classnotes, reading the next chapter of the text book or novel, taking notes from a podcast or video clip or additional practise questions for a specific topic.

Amount of homework

- The amount of homework set for students will increase gradually as they move through the College to prepare them for the demands of senior studies.

- The amount of homework set by each subject will be relative to the percentage of time it is allocated on the timetable.
- In Years 7-10, teachers will take into consideration the competing demands on the student's free time (e.g. other homework, sporting or family commitments).
- Setting homework that is due the following day will be avoided where possible to allow students to create an effective homework plan.
- Year 7 and 8 students will be expected to complete an average of 2.5 – 5 hours of homework in total per week.
- Years 9 and 10 students will be expected to complete an average of 8-10 hours of homework in total per week.
- At VCE, students are expected to complete 2-3 hours of homework per subject per week. This homework should include the completion of set tasks and ongoing preparation for exams. It is also expected that VCE students complete at least 5 hours of homework (per subject) during the term breaks to consolidate the learning of the previous term, and in order to be fully prepared for new topics in the upcoming term.

Completion of homework

- The expectations for homework will be outlined by classroom teachers for each subject at the start of the school year.
- All homework tasks are expected to be completed and submitted by the due date. Where this is not the case, students will be asked to complete these tasks during lunchtime or after-school detentions.
- Classroom teachers will set homework appropriate to each child's skill level and age.
- Homework activities will be meaningful tasks which are strongly linked to the skills and knowledge that are the focus of the current curriculum.

Shared expectations and responsibilities

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

Responsibilities and expectations for **leaders** at Cranbourne East 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.

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers** at Cranbourne east 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 cultural activities outside of school hours
- offer opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning.

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- 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 (for older students).

Reviewed: Term 2 2024
Date of Next Review: Term 2 2028

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are:

- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

Support for students and parents/carers

Cranbourne East Secondary 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.

Evaluation:

The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed as part of the College's four-year review cycle.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at student forums
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Homework – Department Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	Term 2 2024
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	Term 2 2028 – minimum review cycle for this policy is 3 to 4 years