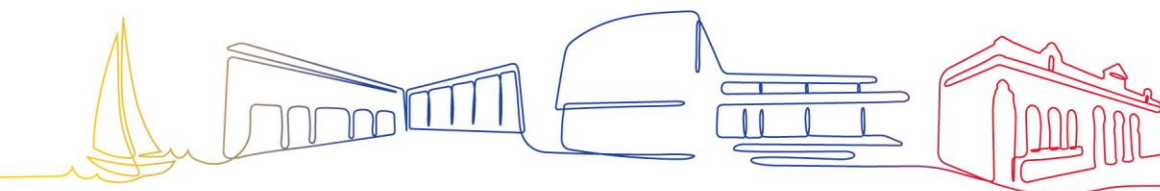




WILLIAMSTOWN  
HIGH SCHOOL

# Homework Policy

<b>Review cycle</b>	3 - 4 years
<b>Department of Education DE requirement for local policy</b>	Mandatory
<b>Source of requirement</b>	DE Policy in PAL
<b>Consultation requirement</b>	School Council
<b>Approval requirements</b>	Principal
<b>Developed/Approved</b>	00/11/2025
<b>Due for review</b>	00/11/2028



HOLD FAST

# Homework Policy

## 1. Rationale

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Williamstown High School.

Williamstown High School has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council to support student learning and wellbeing. Students are encouraged to enhance their learning by completing regular independent study.

- 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

## 2. Purpose

With support from teachers and family members, students should develop a study routine in line with a balanced school program, which incorporates a combination of being active, socialisation, down-time and part-time work (where applicable). This also teaches students to be organised as they learn to plan and prioritise their time using the study planner and other eLearning tools, such as Google Classroom and Compass.

## 3. Implementation

**Leaders at Williamstown High School 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.

**Students should:**

- Be aware of the school's homework policy.
- Discuss homework expectations with their parents/careers.
- Follow up on feedback provided by teachers.
- Take responsibility for their own learning by completing independent study on time and to their best of their ability.
- Maintain an effective study planner.
- Communicate to the teacher and/or family if there are any difficulties/issues.
- Catch up on work missed due to absence.

**Teachers should:**

- Set tasks that are purposeful and meaningful and reinforce students' learning by following on in class from set tasks.
- Ensure students are aware of the work to be completed.
- Differentiate tasks where appropriate to support all students at the point of need.
- Provide timely and effective feedback to students, where appropriate.
- Take into consideration the workload of students so that they can manage their workload effectively, by having discussions with the students and other teachers.

**Families should:**

- Provide a quiet area dedicated to independent study.
- Ensure there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities.

# Homework Policy

- Support the independent study practices of students, without completing work for them, and acknowledge success as they complete it.
- Provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning through discussing their homework or ideas/topics being taught in class.
- Encourage the use of and regularly check eLearning platforms to enhance/assist with organisation and communicate with teachers. E.g. Google Classroom, Compass, etc.

## 4. Specific Procedures

### Recommended time for independent study

Students should aim to complete regular independent study in line with a negotiated study routine with their teachers and family.

In the senior school, the work demands will increase and there will also be increased demands on the weekend, particularly during SAC and examination periods.

SEALP students should look at the year ahead of their actual year level to gauge how much time they should spend on independent study e.g. Year 8 SEALP students should complete 90 minutes of independent study.

These are recommended times only and should be discussed with the student, teachers and families. There may be days where students have extracurricular or family commitments. Students should take this into consideration when planning their study routine, to allow time for independent study within the daily recommended times for each year level:

<b>Year 7</b>	60 minutes per day
<b>Year 8</b>	80 minutes per day
<b>Year 9</b>	90 minutes per day
<b>Year 10</b>	120 minutes per day
<b>Year 11</b>	150 minutes per day
<b>Year 12</b>	180 minutes per day

### Independent Reading

Williamstown High School encourages all students to complete approximately 30 minutes of sustained reading daily on a text of their choice. Students are supported at 7-9 with a period dedicated to an independent reading session in English each week. Families should reinforce this at home.

Text can be any reading material of the student's choice i.e. newspaper, online articles, blogs, novels, magazines, etc.

### Support for Students and Parents/Carers

Williamstown High School 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.

# Homework Policy

## 5. Evaluation and Review

This policy was ratified by the School Council in 2025 and will be reviewed as part of the 3-year school's review cycle and in the event of any incident which may prompt a review of the policy.

## 6. Definitions and References

*Independent study* refers to the directed homework set in class, and the self-directed work students do at home, guided by the content they are studying in class, to reinforce their own understanding. This can also include revision for tests and exams. It is recommended by the teacher but not enforced.

### Homework:

*Directed homework* is set regularly by the classroom teacher and relates to class learning. These tasks are aimed to encourage independence, positive work habits, and organisational and time management skills. These tasks will either prepare students for new topics via research or reinforce learning via practice.

*Negotiated homework* is modified homework requested by families, in consultation with the student and teacher, to individualise the learning and support of the individual student's needs. This is for the purpose of targeting a particular need and may replace the directed homework in some cases.

*Independent homework* is work initiated by the student, with support of their teacher and family, to complete work based on their own interests and/or school tasks or projects. These homework tasks are not school requirements, will be in addition to the directed homework, and are not corrected by the teacher unless the teacher chooses to, or it is part of the subject requirement. Independent homework should not add undue time or pressure to interfere with a student's balanced school program.

## 7. Consultative process

- Staff consulted for feedback on current policy.
- Teaching and Learning Leaders and Curriculum Leaders summarised feedback.
- Students were surveyed for feedback.
- A draft policy submitted to Education Policy
- Feedback received and considerations made.
- Final draft submitted for ratification by school council.
- Communicated to school community via email notification and available publicly on our school's website