



Mary MacKillop

Catholic Regional College

HOMEWORK POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

This policy aims to set out some guidelines for the development of effective use of learning and study habits at Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College (MMCRC). Homework serves as an intellectual discipline, establishing study habits and reinforcing the work that has been done in school. It fosters student initiative, independence and responsibility in addition to bringing home life and school life closer together. At the heart of an effective homework policy is the professional discretion of the teacher. Thus, the classroom teacher is the best person to determine the appropriate homework for each student.

2. PRINCIPLES

1. All students should have the opportunity to regularly consolidate work that has been covered during the school day.
2. Homework has two important components:
 - **Mode A homework:** here the emphasis is on practice and consolidation including routine questions, knowledge retrieval, revision strategies and pre-lesson prep.
 - **Mode B homework:** here the emphasis is on open ended tasks including research projects, creative product making and research activities.
3. It is appropriate for all learning areas to set work and provide guidelines for homework that is to be completed outside of class time to reinforce/enhance learning.
4. The work set should not prove a burden to students. The work should be:
 - Appropriate to the students' ability. Thus, teachers will need to modify and differentiate homework tasks so they are appropriate for each individual in their class.
 - Purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum.
 - Interesting, challenging and assessed by the teachers with feedback and support provided.
5. Students' need to be responsible for catching up on class work that they have missed due to other College activities/absences.
6. Teachers can help students with their homework by:
 - Setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to classwork to suit the students' learning needs.
 - Differentiating tasks and making appropriate adjustments to student work, where needed, to best support student learning.

- Where necessary, exemptions for vulnerable or disadvantaged students must be considered.
- Giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities.
- Assessing homework and providing timely and practical feedback and support.
- Making effective use of student planners in the junior years.
- All homework will be clearly written up on the 'Homework Planner' in 7 - 9 classrooms.

WHEN DELIVERING HOMEWORK STUDENTS APPRECIATE:

- Consistent timelines when distributing homework – i.e., always distributed on a Monday and checked on a Friday.
- A week to complete the homework so not to infringe on outside commitments.
- When appropriate, hardcopy worksheets.
- At least 48 hours between distributing and collecting homework.
- For homework to be placed on the homework board in the junior years and on Simon.

3. GUIDELINES

1. Learning Area Leaders will provide guidelines as to the appropriate work to be set outside of class and will co-ordinate across Learning Areas to manage student workload. This could include a particular numeracy and literacy focus.
2. The Learning Area Leaders will monitor the work set outside of class.
3. That the work set be guided by the following durations per day:
 - a. Year 7 30 minutes
 - b. Year 8 45 minutes
 - c. Year 9 60 minutes
 - d. Year 10 90 minutes
 - e. Year 11 120 to 150 minutes
 - f. Year 12 150 – 180 minutes

*No holiday homework for Years 7 - 9

**No homework for Year 7 students for the first 2 weeks of the school year.

4. REVIEW

Implementation Date: April 2022

Reviewed: June 2023

Next Review Date: June 2024