



CATHOLIC REGIONAL COLLEGE
CAROLINE SPRINGS

HOMEWORK POLICY

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Rationale

'As part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum' at Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs, 'homework is seen as one way of supporting and fostering life-long learning and connecting families with the learning of their children' (Homework Guidelines, Department of Education, Victoria).

Policy Statement

At Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs, we believe homework should be a meaningful and worthwhile experience for students and is most effective in supporting learning when it has a clear purpose.

Homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning and practice skills, prepare students for a new topic, extend, and elaborate on introduced material, pattern behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom and involve family members in their learning. The setting of homework considers the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, recreation and community and cultural pursuits.

Scripture

Romans 15:4

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.



Roles and responsibilities

Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs supports our students by:

- ensuring the school's homework policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and making a copy of the homework policy available
- ensuring students are aware of how to access homework on SEQTA Learn.

Teachers support students by:

- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- giving students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assessing homework and providing timely and practical feedback and support
- helping students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensuring parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy.

Parents/carers support students by:

- developing a positive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community groups.

Students take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing with their parents or carers homework expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers
- 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
- checking SEQTA Learn for homework.



Recommended Homework Time

Homework for Year 7

In Year 7, homework may be set across the curriculum. Homework may include regular tasks and assignments that require investigation.

To assist with the transition to secondary school no homework is given in the first four weeks of Term One.

The College will support students to develop time management skills, guide them to become more independent learners and ensure their workloads are manageable. This is particularly important for Year 7 who are transitioning to secondary school.

As a guide students may receive up to five hours balanced over the week. No holiday homework given, apart from pre-reading of English texts and other reading, although students may choose to collect materials or work on assignment if they choose.

Homework for Year 8

In Year 8, homework may be set across the curriculum. Homework may include regular tasks, assignments that require investigation and preparation for examinations (Year 8 English and Maths).

The College will support students to develop time management skills, guide them to become more independent learners and ensure their workloads are manageable.

As a guide students may receive up to six hours balanced over the week. No holiday homework given, apart from pre-reading of English texts and other reading, although students may choose to collect materials or work on assignment if they choose.

Homework for Year 9

In Year 9, homework may be set on a regular basis across the curriculum. Homework might include practice that complements work learnt in class, assignments, as well as preparing for assessment tasks and studying for exams.

The College will continue supporting students to develop their time management skills and encourage independent work.



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As a guide students may receive up to 8 hours balanced over the week. During holiday periods, students may be expected to work on assignments or complete preparatory or practice homework. Homework loads will vary during different times of the year.

Homework for Year 10

In Year 10, homework may be set on a regular basis across the curriculum. Homework might include practice that complements work learnt in class, assignments, as well as preparing for assessment tasks and studying for exams.

The College will continue supporting students to develop their time management skills and encourage independent work.

As a guide students may receive up to 10 hours balanced over the week. During holiday periods, students may be expected to work on assignments or complete preparatory or practice homework. Homework loads will vary during different times of the year.

VCE/VET

As a guide students may receive up to one hour of homework after each scheduled lesson. During holiday periods, students may be expected to work on assignments or complete preparatory or practice homework. Homework loads will vary during different times of the year.

Students undertaking VCE or VET courses at Catholic Regional College Sydenham are advised to refer to Catholic Regional College Sydenham Student Handbook.

Term Holidays

Term holidays create an important opportunity for students to be with family and friends and for extracurricular activities, although students may also be expected to complete work over the holidays such as reading novels, collecting materials for the next term, assignments, or preparatory work.

Where a parent/carer is concerned that a student is overwhelmed with homework requirements, they are advised to contact the subject teacher setting the homework.



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Homework Non-completion

Where a student fails to complete set homework the parents/carers are informed of this via SEQTA generated emails. Where this is a common occurrence, subject teachers will contact parents/carers by phone to discuss the issue.

Extra Support

Maths support sessions will continue to run twice a week after school. This year after school sessions will take place in Room MM2 every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:05pm until 4:00pm.

English support sessions will run once per week after school. These sessions will take place in Room MM3 every Wednesday from 3:05pm until 4:00pm.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Mechanisms are in place to monitor the amount of homework across all subjects to ensure that students' workloads are manageable. SEQTA generated reports for assessment task due dates must be up to date.

References

Victorian State Government Education and Training