

Ringwood Secondary College

Homework Policy



Help for non-English speakers.

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Ringwood Secondary College on (03) 9870 2002.

Ringwood Secondary College is committed to creating and maintaining a child safe and child-friendly organisation. The Child Safe Standards are compulsory minimum standards for all Victorian schools to ensure they are well prepared to keep children and young people safe and protect them from abuse. [Ministerial Order 1359](#) provides the framework for child safety in schools.

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Ringwood Secondary College's policy requirements relating to homework.

Scope

This policy applies to students and all staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Ringwood Secondary College.

Rationale

Ringwood Secondary College has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council 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

Definitions

Homework can be defined as tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

Policy

At Ringwood Secondary College all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- appropriate to students' skill level and age
- designed to help students develop as independent learners
- monitored by the teacher
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to connect with their child in their learning

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 Ringwood 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 Ringwood 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
- ensure that set work requirements and assessment tasks are visible on Compass for both students and parents/carers

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are to:

- be aware of the school's homework policy
- discuss homework expectations with their parents/carers
- accept responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- follow up on comments made by teachers
- seek assistance when difficulties arise
- organise their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment (for older students)
- view Compass daily for individual Lesson Plans, Learning Tasks and information relating to the completion and submission of work

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

- ensure there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- talk to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- discuss homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home,
- in dialogue, link homework to:
 - previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had
 - family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s)
 - relevant services, clubs, associations and community
- ensure there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework
- regularly view Compass Learning Tasks for key dates and completion/submission of work

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Ringwood 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 communicate with their child's teacher and/or Year Level Coordinator.

Students who may benefit from support completing their homework tasks are encouraged join the Ringwood Secondary College's Study Group. Further information about this can be obtained by contacting the College.

Communication

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

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

Further Information and Resources

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following Department policies and guidelines:

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

Policy status and review

Assistant principal is responsible for reviewing and updating the Homework Policy at least every three years.

Approval

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Policy last reviewed | 18 October 2023 |
| Consultation | College Council – 18 October 2023 |
| Approved by | School Council and Rosina Fotia (Principal) |
| Next review date | October 2026 |