



Essendon Keilor College Homework Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and staff Essendon Keilor College's expectations for homework and at-home learning.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and to staff responsible for setting homework.

POLICY

The purpose of homework is to complement and reinforce classroom learning. Homework is planned by teachers to be an integral part of the curriculum and teaching program. Homework fosters good lifelong learning skills and study habits and provides the opportunity for students to become responsible for their own learning. 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.

Teachers at Essendon Keilor College are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students. Homework assigned across different learning areas will be coordinated by Year Level Coordinators to avoid unreasonable workloads for students. A suggested homework timetable will be communicated to parents each year.

The type of homework

Teachers at Essendon Keilor College will set homework that supports learning and is:

- appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- structured to be challenging, but achievable in the time allocated
- reviewed promptly by teachers with timely and practical feedback and support
- encouraging real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- allocated enough time to complete, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- designed to help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- offering a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning

Homework may include:

- practice exercises which provide opportunities for students to apply new knowledge or to review and revise newly acquired skills
- preparatory homework (pre-loading) which provides opportunities for students to gain background information so they are better prepared for future lessons
- extension work to encourage students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively
- multiple exposures to important content
- revision tasks in preparation for assessments

Expectations of Students

Students are expected to:

- be aware of the school's homework policy
- develop a homework timetable
- use the school planner to track tasks and due dates
- accept responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- seek help from teachers and their parents but complete the homework themselves
- discuss with their parents/carers homework expectations
- follow up on comments made by teachers
- revise vocabulary
- organise their time to manage home obligations sport, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment

Role of the Parent/Carer

Parents/carers can support their students by:

- encouraging a regular daily session to examine and complete homework
- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- checking their child's planner/compass/Google Classroom for set tasks and due dates
- providing a suitable study space at home
- discussing key questions or suggesting resources to help with homework
- helping to balance the time spent between homework and recreational activities
- responding to progress reports and talking to teachers about any homework problems
- 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

Essendon Keilor College will:

- advise parent/carers of homework expectations and provide a copy of the Homework Policy
- set an assessment schedule and suggested homework timetable at Year 7 to 9 which will be communicated to parents each semester
- work with parents/carers to establish good homework patterns
- notify the parent/carers if a student regularly fails to complete homework
- provide an after school homework program for students who regularly fail to complete homework

Time allocation for homework

As a guide, the amount of homework a student does should increase as they get older:

Year 7:	30 to 45 minutes a day
Years 8 and 9:	45 to 60 minutes a day
Year 10:	1 to 2 hours a day
Years 11 and 12:	2 to 3 hours per day

Reading: 20 to 30 minutes reading per night (in Years 7 to 11) should be completed in addition to time allocated for homework

Students who are absent or have not completed work in class may be required to do additional homework or attend the after school homework program.

REVIEW CYCLE This policy was ratified by college council on June 3rd 2021 and is scheduled for review in February 2023