

HOMEWORK POLICY



Help for non-English speakers If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the general office.

PURPOSE

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

CONTEXT STATEMENT

Located in the Wyndham growth corridor of Tarneit, Brinbeal Secondary College provides students from the Tarneit community a wide range of diverse and outstanding opportunities in an orderly and inclusive learning environment that promotes and fosters educational attainment and academic excellence for all.

Brinbeal Secondary College is a Supported Inclusion School (SIS). A SIS is a local government school with additional professional capabilities and facilities designed to cater to a higher proportion of students with disability (up to 10%). Students with a disability will be provided with enhanced support to receive high-quality, evidence-based educational provision alongside their peers without disability in a safe, accessible and supportive environment.

Brinbeal Secondary College can enrol 1,300 students, including 100 places for students with disability.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Brinbeal Secondary College.

RATIONALE

Brinbeal 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 is tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

POLICY

At Brinbeal 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 partner in their child's learning.

Years 7 and 8

All students should be completing 20 to 30 minutes of daily reading for pleasure.

Homework tasks at these year levels may include consolidation of classwork, projects, research assignments, pre-reading or revision. Generally, students will be expected to spend between 30 to 40 minutes per day on teacher designated homework tasks. Homework will be coordinated across learning areas in order to avoid unreasonable workloads for students. Realistic timelines will be provided to complete homework tasks, a minimum of 3 nights, which takes into consideration extra-curricular activities.

*NB: In Term 1 of Year 7 students will not be given any additional homework tasks other than in English and Mathematics to support the students in their transition from primary to secondary school.

Years 9 and 10

All students should be completing 20 to 30 minutes of daily reading for pleasure.

Homework tasks at these year levels may include consolidation of classwork, projects, research assignments, pre-reading or revision. Generally, students will be expected to spend between 40 to 60 minutes per day on teacher designated homework tasks. Homework will be coordinated across learning areas in order to avoid unreasonable workloads for students. Students will be provided with realistic timelines to complete homework tasks, a minimum of 3 nights, which takes into consideration extra-curricular activities, work and family commitments.

Years 11 and 12

Generally, students can expect homework tasks in these year levels to increase to take into account the expected level of independence and initiative of students. Homework tasks at these level may include pre-reading, annotating of texts, drafting of essays and assignments, consolidation of new knowledge, preparation of summary notes and revision. Students can expect to spend between 1 to 3 hours of homework per weeknight, and further study on weekends during assessment periods.

At Year 11 and Year 12, students are expected to spend an increased amount of time completing homework tasks in preparation for their end of semester/year exams.

*NB: Students undertaking VCE Vocational Major may not have the same homework expectations due to the applied learning aspects of the course.

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 Brinbeal 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 Brinbeal 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
- ensure homework is consistent across classes within the same subject area
- review 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.

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- 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 (for older students).

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

- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home,
- in dialogue, linking 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.
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Brinbeal 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 speak to their child's teachers or Year Level Coordinator.

Brinbeal Secondary College will offer homework support to students. Homework club times will be published in the student bulletin and the newsletter.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school's website (or insert other online parent/carer/student communication method)
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	November 2023
Consultation	Consultation will occur with Student Voice prior to the review of the homework policy on 2026.
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	November 2026