HOMEWORK POLICY

A Guide for Parents
Homework Policy

Rationale
Homework is schoolwork completed outside of class time. It may take various forms and include home study. Educational and community consensus has indicated the important and integral role of homework in all students’ learning experiences: that all students should be given appropriate and regular homework. Homework and home study should be a commitment made by teachers, students and parents/caregivers.

Aims
The aims of homework are for students to:
- develop self discipline and a commitment to learning;
- consolidate and reinforce knowledge and skills learned in class;
- prepare for work to be undertaken in class;
- develop time management skills;
- extend their interests and talent;
- better performance in tests/examinations and assessment tasks.

The aim of homework at Robert Townson High School is also to:
- support parents and caregivers in their expectations of home study.

Implementation

Time Management
The amount of time devoted to homework should increase as the student progresses through their school life. The following is a recommended minimum allocation of time for homework and homestudy per week:

- Years 7 and 8: 6 hours per week
- Years 9 and 10: 8 hours per week
- Years 11 and 12: minimum of 8 hours per week

At times students may be set more homework, such as Year 10 School Certificate and Years 11 and 12 preparing for exams and assessment tasks.

When no formal homework has been set, students may be expected to complete any unfinished class work, review class work and read.

Homework provides parents with valuable insight into what is being taught at school. Reviewing skills treated in class can often cement understanding. Finding a few moments to offer that one-to-one help, which is difficult to receive in a class of thirty, can make all the difference to your child’s success.

What Responsibilities do Teachers, Students and Parent/Caregivers Have Regarding Homework?

Teachers
- Know and implement DET, school and faculty policies regarding homework;
- Inform parent of expectations;
- Set regular homework;
- Give clear instructions when setting homework, ensuring students understand what is expected of them;
- Make homework suitable for students of all abilities;
- Remind students when homework is due;
- Make homework relevant to what is being taught in class;
- Teach the skills of doing homework;
- Vary the types of homework given;
- Mark and return homework promptly;
- Keep records of homework marks;
- Notify parents and support students if problems exist regarding homework;
- Inform students and parents as feedback on homework, both positive and negative;
- Use homework as an extension activity;
- Use homework as an assessment tool;
- Use various resources as a focus for homework.

Students
- Show awareness of school and faculty homework policies;
- Complete set homework to a high standard;
- Complete homework on time;
- Hand homework in on time;
- Seek assistance from teacher when experiencing difficulties completing homework before it is due;
- Correct mistakes;
- Produce own work that is well researched and well documented;
- Present notes and adequate explanation when homework is not completed.

Parents/Caregivers
- Be aware of school and faculty policies regarding homework;
- Show interest in student’s homework and encourage a good effort;
- Ensure that students complete homework;
- Support students in accessing information;
- Provide a suitable home study environment in terms of physical resources and time for completion;
- Advise students to seek help where necessary;
- Ask for feedback—communicate with teachers regarding standard of work submitted etc.;
- Contact school if no homework has been set.

ANY CONCERNS?
Parents having any general concerns about homework should contact the student’s Year Adviser.
Specific enquiries about particular subjects should be directed to the Head Teacher of that subject.

Please phone on 9824 7777 to make an appointment