

School Homework Policy

This policy sets out the homework expectations of students enrolled at Dalby State High School.

Relevant Policy Documents

- Department of Education - Homework
- P-12 Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework
- Parent and Community Engagement Framework

Homework at Dalby State High School

At Dalby State High School homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning, develop pattern behaviour for lifelong learning and involve family members in their learning. The setting of homework takes into account the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, recreation and community and cultural pursuits.

At Dalby State High School homework is effective in supporting learning when it has a clear purpose.

Homework is most effective when it:

- is clearly related to class work
- is appropriate to particular years of schooling
- is varied and differentiated to individual learning needs
- consolidates, revises and/or applies students' classroom learning
- develops students' independence as a learner through extension activities such as investigating, researching, writing, designing, making
- assists students to prepare for upcoming classroom learning, such as collecting relevant materials and information, completing surveys and audits
- is monitored by the teacher.

Homework Policy Aims

The Dalby State High School Homework Policy aims to ensure:

- consistent and effective implementation occurs throughout the school — including a consistent approach to the amount of time students are to spend in completing homework (at particular year levels and in particular learning areas)
- the amount of homework is balanced across all learning areas to allow sufficient time for family, recreation, and community and cultural activities
- students are not disadvantaged by the lack of access to resources such as computers and the internet outside school
- homework is effective in supporting learning.

Suggested Homework/Study Times

Homework may include specific tasks set by the teacher, reading, study and/or assessment task preparation. Sometimes more time may be required due to current assessment demands or the stage of the unit being taught. Indicated times are suggested for 5 nights across the week. This is a guide only. It is important that if students do not have set homework they should undertake activities that contribute to improvement of their general skills and knowledge. (eg reading, practising, general study, revision etc)

See table over page for suggested homework/study times.

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Year Level	Time per week
Year 7	2 ½ hours
Year 8	4 hours
Year 9	6 hours
Year 10*	8 hours
Year 11*	10-15 hours
Year 12*	10-15 hours

Times are represented as hours across the week. This acknowledges that students require flexibility in managing their time to cater for activities such as sporting commitments, family time, work commitments and recreation time.

***Note:** In Years 10, 11 and 12, the amount of time devoted to homework and independent study will vary according to the student's learning needs and individual program of study, as determined through their Senior Education and Training (SET) Plan.

Students in the senior phase of learning are required to be independent learners and exercise their own judgement in determining appropriate study times or negotiate this with their teachers. The above table provides some guidance around this. It is important that balance be maintained between the various demands of study, sporting and recreational activities or part-time work. For this reason, it is recommended that senior students have a time management plan and document relevant tasks, expectations, appointments and due dates in their School Diary and/or personal calendar.

Students not completing homework

Students who do not complete homework tend to perform below their ability. They also become at-risk of falling behind in their studies and failing to meet assessment responsibilities. Homework is essential for students to prepare for assignments and examinations, as well as consolidating classroom learning. Consistent failure to complete set homework tasks can impact the 'Effort' result recorded on the student's report card. Students in the post-compulsory phase of learning (15+ years of age or Year 11 and above) can become at-risk of Cancellation of Enrolment if 'Effort' results are consistently low.

What can parents/caregivers do to help?

- Take an active interest in your child's homework.
- Support your child in setting aside time each day for homework.
- Provide a dedicated place for homework and study if possible.
- Assist teachers to monitor homework by signing/acknowledging completed work (if requested), and be aware of the amount of homework set.
- Communicate with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework or your child's approach to homework.
- Encourage your children to read and take an interest in current events.
- Alert the school to any domestic circumstances or extra-curricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or marked.