



Murrumba State Secondary College

Homework Policy

The classroom is the place where much of the learning takes place. However, real understanding (+ transferring knowledge for short to long term memory) is achieved when, outside the classroom, students:

- revise the work introduced in class
- test their understanding
- apply their newly acquired knowledge / skills
- extend their reading; and
- summarise the information obtained in class or from the textbook This additional work comes under the heading *home learning*.

Home learning comprises of:

- set homework - this is negotiable and will be checked by the teacher
- revision of work covered in class or on any one day - revision involves more than just reading the material - it involves note taking ie. looking for main ideas of the speaker / writer and then writing them out in your own words - be concise which does not mean just writing down main headings but includes the explanation and / or information - notes should be neat, orderly and legible and should be a summary of the main facts
- assignment work and / or test / exam preparation

Home learning provides students with an opportunity to work independently and develop greater responsibility for their own learning.

For home learning to be effective students should:

- have a regular routine and time
- develop a weekly home learning planner (modify it after two weeks if there are problems)
- have an area where they can learn without unnecessary distractions
- have a short break every 45 - 60 minutes
- focus on what they are doing
- ask for teacher assistance if, after reading and thinking about a section of work, they still have difficulty understanding it

Recommended times for home learning:

Junior Secondary (ie. Years 7 - 9) 1 - 2 hours per week day at least four days per week
Senior Secondary (ie. Years 10 - 12) 3 - 5 hours at least four times per week and half a day on the weekend