# **Home Learning Policy**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff the expectations for at-home learning at Beaumaris Secondary College. We all want young people to reach their potential and be prepared for the demands of life-long learning. Home learning plays a key role in helping young people reach this potential.

#### Scope

This policy applies to students in all year levels and to staff responsible for setting home learning tasks.

# **Policy**

Beaumaris Secondary College expects students to further develop and consolidate their independent learning skills by completing home learning tasks. Home learning has a positive effect on learning and is an important part of reinforcing the concepts introduced in class. It also plays a significant role in building work habits, self-regulation and responsibility.

Teachers at Beaumaris Secondary College are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students. Home learning assigned across different learning areas will be coordinated by teachers in professional learning teams to avoid unreasonable workloads for students. Teachers can identify home learning tasks with the use of the Home Learning common cue in OneNote.

### Years 7 to 10

Home learning tasks at these year levels may include daily independent reading, deeper learning tasks, projects, essays, actions, and research. Some tasks may be assigned to be completed during weekends and on the school holidays.

How long should students at each year level spend completing home learning?	
Year 7	3 -4 hours a week
Year 8	4 -5 hours a week
Year 9	6 -8 hours a week
Year 10	8 -10 hours a week
Year 11	15 -18 hours a week
Year 12	15 -18 hours a week

# How will students document home learning tasks?

Student will choose one of the following platforms:

- Teams (How to set home learning tasks on Tasks by Planner.docx)
- Outlook (How to Document Home Learning Students.docx)
- Personal hard copy diary

## **Shared Expectations and Responsibilities**

Home Learning is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. To get the most out of home learning tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

## The school will support students by:

- fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools
- ensuring the school's home learning policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of home learning expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with a copy of the Home Learning Policy
- ensuring students record home learning tasks
- providing a space for VCE students to study before school, at lunch times and afterschool. The senior centre will be open from 8.00 am for VCE students.

# It is expected teachers will:

- ensure home learning is aligned with our teaching and learning vision
  - We learn purposefully by cultivating curiosity, being reflective and making real-world connections.
- equip students with the skills to solve problems
- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- give students enough time to complete home learning, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assess home learning and provide timely and practical feedback and support
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's Home Learning Policy
- communicate with families where appropriate via email or phone call in line with the Communications Policy.

## It is expected students will take responsibility for their own learning by:

- recording home learning tasks and due dates
- being aware of the school's Home Learning Policy
- taking responsibility for their own learning
- completing homework independently or with a group as set by teacher
- discussing with their parents/carers home learning expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of home learning 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
- communicating with their teachers to catch up on missed tasks when absent from school.

### It is expected parents/carers will support their children by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to home learning
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on home learning and recreational activities
- ensuring students are recording their home learning and due dates
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- talking to teachers about any questions they have regarding the home learning
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their home learning tasks
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- 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 home learning and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community.

# Support for students, parents and carers

Teachers at Beaumaris Secondary College understand that students have different learning preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and home learning differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the home learning tasks that have been set or is spending a long period of time completing their home learning, we encourage you to speak to the GOAL Mentor.

Students who may benefit from support completing their home learning tasks are encouraged to attend Learning Support and Study Skills sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons between 3:15 and 4.15pm. VCE study support is available to VCE students at lunchtimes. The senior centre is open to VCE students before and after school.

#### **Further information and resources**

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
  - o <u>Homework Guidelines</u>
  - o <u>Homework Expectations</u>

## **Review Cycle**

This policy is scheduled for review in 2024.