
HOME LEARNING GUIDELINES

Home learning is an important component of the teaching and learning process. As part of their own health and wellbeing, students also need quality time for family and leisure activities outside school. To ensure this, time for home learning needs to be regularly set aside, planned and balanced with these other priorities. For some students home learning responsibilities will be part of an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

TYPES OF HOME LEARNING

1. **Consolidation Tasks**- includes specific tasks directed by the teacher to consolidate recently acquired skills or apply new knowledge to ensure that students understand and can apply what was taught in class. Consolidation tasks are recorded on SEQTA and all students are expected to complete them by the allocated time.
2. **Study**- is student directed work to reinforce classroom learning, processing information and expand knowledge on a current unit of work. Study refers to time spent reading and, either to review what's already been covered, or to prepare for future classes related to the current topic (unit of work). Students should set aside regular time for studying to ensure a greater understanding of the concepts learnt in class and do not fall behind. Studying includes creating flashcards, writing and re-writing notes, making outlines, and reading.
3. **Revision**-is student directed work aimed at re-learning and consolidating past knowledge, or units of work that have previously been covered so that students are able to implement or recall them more quickly and efficiently. Revising also includes preparing for tests and exams by making notes, reading notes, completing test questions or past exam papers and testing understanding of previously covered work.

THE BENEFITS OF HOME LEARNING

Home learning is valuable because it:

- Allows for practicing, consolidating and extending work done in class.
- Challenges and extends gifted and talented students.
- Establishes routine and self-discipline which will assist students in other areas of their lives.
- Teaches students to take responsibility for their own learning and increases their awareness of how they learn and what works best for them.
- Strengthens the partnership between home and school providing parents/ guardians with insight into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress made by their child.
- If attended to regularly, allows students to more easily organise and prioritise time for family and leisure
- Provides regular feedback to students.

HOME LEARNING GUIDE

Students should be regularly completing teacher-directed consolidation tasks and self-directed study tasks throughout the week and engaging in revision prior to tests and exams. The following is a guide only and recognises that at various stages of the year these may vary. It is hoped that these guidelines will help maintain a balance between family/ recreation time and home learning, mindful of PSA sport commitments.

Year Level	Total Hours Weekly
7	2-4
8	4-6
9	6-8
10	8-10
11/12	Pathway Dependent

PARENT/GUARDIAN ROLE

Parents/ guardian play a major role in ensuring a home learning policy is successful. They can assist by:

- Encouraging students to complete home learning tasks and ensuring it is their own work
- Taking an active interest in the work and checking that work is completed to a satisfactory standard
- Helping the student to establish a routine for completing home learning tasks
- Providing, where possible, a dedicated place for their son to work
- Communicating with teachers if there is a concern such as a student repeatedly spending too much time on home learning tasks
- Helping students make links between what they have learned and the real world

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students should recognise the distinction between consolidation tasks, study and revision.
- Students should undertake home learning daily, commencing from the first week of each semester (or unit of study)
- Students are to schedule opportunities for revision of concepts delivered each week of their learning programs. This practice is to commence from the first week of each semester (or unit of study).

Study skills are taught via a two-pronged approach:

- (i) General study skills (including organization and time-management skills) are delivered in the Year 7 Transition program, Formation and Pastoral Care programs, as well as in timetabled classes in the library.
- (ii) Specific subject/ course revision techniques are demonstrated through teacher directed study and revision within lessons

What to do when your son says, 'I don't have any work to do'...

STEP 1: Check on SEQTA for any consolidation tasks that have been allocated by the classroom teacher.

STEP 2: Talk to your sons about Study on the current unit of work. This will include creating flash cards, taking detailed notes, making outlines, reading and creating timelines or mind maps.

STEP 3: Talk to your son about Revision. This could mean starting to prepare for upcoming tests and exams by developing a detailed revision plan and may include practice essays, completing past test/exam papers, quizzes, and memory mnemonics.