

## Home Learning Guidelines for Parents/Caregivers

The purpose of home learning is to improve quality student learning by encouraging and establishing good study habits, reinforce, revise and/or extend what is being learned at school, thus providing a positive link between school and home. Home learning also enables students to learn independent self-management skills in preparation for study at higher educational levels, such as the Higher School Certificate or study at a tertiary level.

### Guide to homework time

The following is a general guide to appropriate time to be spent on homework.

Year 7:	30 minutes on weeknights
Year 8:	45 minutes on weeknights
Year 9:	70 minutes on weeknights plus additional time on weekends for assessment work
Year 10:	90 minutes on weeknights plus additional time on weekends for assessment work
Year 11	2 hours per day of homework, assessment and revision work
Year 12	More than 2 hours per day of homework, assessment and revision work

If you have concerns about excessive amounts of home learning, you should contact the class teacher in the first instance.

### How parents/caregivers can help at home

The college encourages parents/caregivers to acknowledge and support their child's learning efforts at both school and home. Time spent with your child during home learning should be supportive and affirming.

Parents/caregivers can access information about their child's home learning assignments through their child's diary or the college online learning management system, Canvas. Teachers provide students with clear instructions on home learning assignments, including expected completion dates.

During home learning sessions, your child should check their home learning notes/plans for current and upcoming assignments. The college expects students to complete the learning tasks assigned to them according to the instructions provided. In addition to assigned activities, students should be encouraged to read challenging and interesting material at home.

Some of the following points may help reinforce at home what happens at school.

Where possible, it is helpful for students to have:

- a healthy diet and regular exercise
- a balance of social, recreational and study demands
- a quiet area with a desk and good lighting
- time allocation free of impediments
- moral support in tasks and relevant goals.



### **Access to technology at home**

Safe access to information and communications technology (ICT) is essential for your child to make the most of their learning. Social media is an important tool for learning and for maintaining relationships in this day and age, but appropriate habits are best developed with good guidelines and careful monitoring from parents/caregivers.

These guidelines may be suitable for developing and maintaining appropriate habits for using ICT at home:

- Encourage your child to use the internet positively and creatively
- Don't allow your child unrestricted access to a desktop or laptop
- Avoid allowing your child to use a computer in their bedrooms. Encourage a common area for using technology
- Encourage a computer-free time before bed and discourage them from having the device with them after 'lights out'
- Encourage your child to charge their device/s at a 'charging station' which is not in their room
- Discourage early (age) access to Facebook and other social media sites and insist on being 'friends' with your child
- Inform the college if you are concerned about online behaviours, especially when other students are involved.

### **Access to technology at school**

The college recognises that ICT is constantly changing and has become central to learning and teaching. Under the terms of the college Student ICT Usage Policy, the college offers access to its network to enable students to use the internet at school using either school or their own internet-enabled devices to assist them in learning.

To assist students with their studies, students have access to computers and the college network in the college library during breaks and after school on afternoons when the library is open.