

MIDDLE & SENIOR SCHOOL HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

At Nhulunbuy Christian College we recognise that homework is an integral part of the learning process and equips students with lifelong skills, such as organisation, time management, problem solving, goal-setting and perseverance. Homework is intended to help students reflect upon and consolidate what has been learnt in class, practise new skills and prepare for upcoming lessons and assessment tasks. It is always our aim to assign homework that is:

- purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- appropriate to each students skill level and age
- modified where required to meet individual or family needs
- interesting, challenging and where appropriate open ended
- given with appropriate and realistic deadlines
- not a cause of undue stress or anxiety for the student

We understand that homework often competes with other priorities and it is always our intention that students have a balanced and well-rounded approach to both school and out of school activities. We realise that education and learning comes in many different forms, therefore we strongly encourage our students to participate and stay involved in other hobbies and community events, such as:

- Sport
- Music lessons
- Church and Youth Group involvement
- Performing Arts (dance, drama, art etc.)
- Socialising with family and friends
- Fishing/Camping
- House chores
- Part-time job

Homework time should be a structured and allocated time each day that provides a regular routine for students to follow. This way students can build regular homework time around other weekly activities that they regularly participate in. We want to encourage our students to take responsibility for their learning and instil in them good habits and routines that will assist them with their future studies.

HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

Below is a guideline of how much time students should be spending on their homework each week. [This is a guideline only](#) and can change depending on different stages of the term. For example, some subjects have major assessment tasks at different times during the term which may require more time, however, teachers will always provide additional class time to complete major assessment tasks to ensure students do not become overloaded.

Furthermore, there will also be other times that the workload is not as substantial depending on many factors, such as work completed during class time. As a school we are also aware of different students needs and how this may affect the time each individual spends on a task. If for any reason you are finding that homework is causing your child undue stress or anxiety please don't hesitate to let your child's classroom teacher know so that we can put appropriate plans in place to support them. It is never our intention for homework to cause great distress for our students.



HOMEWORK GUIDELINES FOR MIDDLE AND SENIOR SCHOOL

Year Level	Time allocation per week
Year 5	2 hours
Year 6	3 hours
Year 7	3.5 hours
Year 8	4 hours
Year 9-10	5 hours

** Please note that these allocated times also includes the recommended reading time (eg. 10 mins per evening)*

STUDY PLANNER

Classroom teachers works closely with students to help them create a manageable study planner that they can use to break down homework tasks into manageable chunks. It would be unrealistic to expect a student to sit down and complete 2-4 hours of homework in one evening, therefore we strongly encourage students to set time aside each night to complete work. For example, it may mean allocating 30-60 minutes after dinner each night from Monday-Thursday for your child to sit down and complete school work. This way it becomes much more achievable and not so overwhelming for the student. *Please see the attached Study Planner as a helpful resource to use.*

COLLEGE DIARY

It is an expectation that all students from Year 7-10 regularly use their College Diary to record all homework tasks and other important events and information as a way of staying organised. The diary is a useful resource that both students, parents and teachers can use to stay informed and check that students are completing the required homework and staying up to date. It is compulsory for students to take their diary to every lesson.

EXPECTATIONS

It is an expectation that students complete all the set homework and assignment tasks to the best of their ability and in a timely manner. However, we understand that there may be circumstances that impact a student's ability to complete work. Where this is the case, we ask that students communicate with their teacher as soon as possible to seek assistance or discuss whether or not extra time is required to complete the work. Parents can communicate any issues or concerns by writing a note in their child's diary, a written note or via email. Where necessary, homework and assignments will be modified to meet individual student needs.

HOMEWORK / ASSIGNMENT EXTENSIONS

Extensions for homework and assignments should not be assumed and are not approved until they are confirmed by speaking directly with the classroom teacher first. Assignments submitted late or without prior explanation may have marks deducted.

CATCHING UP ON INCOMPLETE SCHOOLWORK

If a student persistently fails to complete homework without adequate explanation, parents will be informed and the student will be required to complete work in the Care Space during their lunchtime. In some circumstances a student may be requested to attend Homework Club on a Wednesday afternoon in order to receive extra help from a teacher and/or to catch up on work. This will only be done once a conversation has been had with parents and they agree for their child to attend.

WHAT IS HOMEWORK CLUB?

Homework Club is a weekly afterschool activity that is optional for all students in the college. Students are provided with a quiet space to complete schoolwork with a teacher available to assist where needed. Homework Club will run for an hour immediately after school on Wednesday afternoon (2:30-3:30pm).



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HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

Parents play an important role in supporting their child to complete homework. It is encouraged that parents work closely with their child to set up structured routines and guidelines for when and where homework is to be completed. Below are some suggestions that may help parents with supporting their child when it comes to homework.

- Show an active interest in the work your child is doing. Ask them questions and get them to explain to you what the task is.
- Provide a quiet and comfortable place for homework where it is possible for a student to work without interruption or distraction.
- Don't do for a child what they can do for themselves, i.e. assist them but don't do it for them.
- Don't take responsibility for your child's homework. Work with them to put good structures and routines in place where they can take ownership and responsibility for completing their work.
- Don't let your child excessively labour over their homework to the point that it is causing them undue stress/anxiety. Help your child to know when to take a break and/or when to leave a task that they may not understand.
- Please communicate with teachers if you have any concerns regarding the homework expectations of your child.

If you have any questions or queries regarding the above information, please don't hesitate to get in contact with your child's teacher.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Van Seters'.

**Tanya Van Seters
College Principal**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Knee'.

**Andy Knee
Assistant Principal**



MY STUDY PLANNER

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MORNING	5 AM – 6 AM							
	6 AM – 7 AM							
	7 AM – 8 AM							
	8 AM – 9 AM							
	9 AM – 10 AM							
	10 AM – 11 AM							
	11 AM – 12 PM							
AFTERNOON	12 PM – 1 PM							
	1 PM – 2 PM							
	2 PM – 3 PM							
	3 PM – 4 PM							
	4 PM – 5 PM							
	5 PM – 6 PM							
	6 PM – 7 PM							
EVENING	7 PM – 8 PM							
	8 PM – 9 PM							
	9 PM – 10 PM							
	10 PM – 11 PM							
	11 PM – 12 AM							