



FOREST LAKE STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Homework Policy

Statement of Purpose

Homework is an integral part of a student's education. It is used to consolidate learning that has taken place in the classroom, encourages the development of positive study habits which are vital to success in higher education, and provides an avenue where school and home can be linked together in partnership.

Homework is most effective when it:

- is clearly related to class work;
- is appropriate to particular years of schooling;
- is varied and differentiated to individual learning needs;
- consolidates, revises and/or applies students' classroom learning;
- develops students' independence as a learner;
- assists students to prepare for upcoming classroom learning;
- is monitored by the teacher.

Implementing the school homework policy

Teachers help students establish a routine of regular, independent study by:

- setting homework on a regular basis that is varied, challenging and related to classroom learning;
- clearly communicating the purpose, benefits and expectations of all homework;
- explicitly teaching strategies to develop organisation and time-management skills;
- giving consideration to the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle;
- checking homework regularly and providing timely and useful feedback;
- communicating with parents and carers any problems students experience with homework and suggesting strategies to assist.

Students take responsibility for their own learning by:

- recording all homework and due dates for assessment in the School Planner;
- discussing with their parents or caregivers homework expectations and tasks;
- organising their time effectively to manage school, home and community obligations and commitments;
- completing homework tasks within set time frames;
- seeking assistance in a timely manner when difficulties arise;
- following up on comments made by teachers.

Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

- encouraging them to organise their time effectively and balance the amount of time spent completing homework and engaging in family/recreational activities;
- encouraging students to plan their term responsibilities so that the study/assignment load is balanced across weeks;
- taking an interest in what homework their children have been given; discussing topics and key questions or directing them to information sources;
- encourage them to read and to take an interest in current local, national and international events;
- contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of homework assigned or their child's approach to the homework.

Guide to time allocation appropriate to the phase of learning

The amount of time devoted to homework and independent study will vary according to the student's learning program and individual needs. The following information is a guide to FLSHS expectations based on the understanding that during peak assessment times requirements may increase.

Junior Secondary (Years 7 – 9)

It is recommended that students in year 7 complete 3-5 hours per week while students in years 8 and 9 will spend between 5-7 hours per week. All students are encouraged to include independent reading as part of their regular study routine.

Senior Secondary (Years 10 – 12)

For students pursuing academic pathways with tertiary aspirations there is a greater expectation regarding study.

Students studying Authority Subjects should expect 2–3 hours of homework or independent study per subject per week.

Homework requirements for students pursuing a vocational pathway (VET and/or Authority Registered Subjects) will vary depending on the nature of the studies undertaken. Classroom teachers will be able to detail expectations for each subject.