

HOME STUDY

Homework & Study at St. Mary's College

Homework and study are essential for achieving success in your learning. While homework supports and reinforces classroom learning, study—often overlooked—is key to deepening understanding, improving retention, and fostering independent learning. While the volume of homework may vary, it is crucial to allocate time not only for set tasks but also for active study and revision.

Homework

Homework is typically **task-focused**, **teacher-directed**, and comes with set deadlines. It may include:

- **Practical exercises** Applying new knowledge, revising key concepts, and reinforcing newly acquired skills.
- **Preparatory tasks** Gathering background information to enhance understanding in future lessons.
- **Extension assignments** Encouraging independent and deeper exploration of topics.

Home Study tasks should focus on:

- Practicing skills found to be challenging
- Reviewing content learnt in class
- Preparing for future learning
- Making notes of content covered in class
- Reading for enjoyment and academic research

The below timeframes are suggestions only. All students will require different amounts of time to complete the work assigned or the work they have determined as necessary for completion.

Suggested Home Study Time	
Year 7 & 8	45 minutes to 1 hour per school night
Year 9 & 10	1 1/2 to 2 hours per school night
Year 11 & 12	2 – 3 + hours per night

Expectations

For Teachers

- Design Home Study tasks that are meaningful, purposeful, and directly aligned with the learning objectives of their subject.
- Ensure clarity in instructions, with all tasks communicated both in class and through SIMON
- Provide constructive feedback on completed Home Study, emphasising progress and guiding future improvement.
- Consider the individual needs and capabilities of students to ensure tasks are appropriately challenging and achievable.

For Leaders

- Overseeing the implementation of the Home Study Procedure across all year levels and subjects to ensure consistency and appropriateness
- Providing professional development opportunities to enhance teacher capacity in designing impactful Home Study tasks.
- Regularly reviewing the effectiveness of Home Study practices through feedback from teachers, students, and parents to ensure continuous improvement.
- Supporting teachers to use SIMON in a manner that ensures consistency and clarity

For Students

- Take responsibility for recording all Home Study tasks in their diaries or SIMON and managing their completion.
- Approach tasks with diligence and persistence, seeking support from teachers or peers when challenges arise.
- Develop routines that allocate sufficient time for study while balancing extracurricular activities and personal wellbeing.
- Use Home Study as an opportunity to deepen understanding, practice challenging concepts, and pursue areas of learning growth.

For Parents/Guardians

- Providing a conducive environment for focused study, free from unnecessary distractions.
- Encouraging a healthy balance between study, recreation, and rest.
- Maintaining open communication with teachers to address any challenges or concerns regarding Home Study expectations.
- Monitoring PAM for updates regarding home study tasks