



MacKillop College

Policy: Home Study

Introduction

MacKillop College seeks to educate the whole person through learning that is student-centred, engaging, authentic and purposeful. The College endeavours to support families with their son/daughter's learning at home.

'When students are permitted ownership of their learning they are more likely to view themselves and their learning positively' (Horizons of Hope: Students as Designers, 2016). Home Study helps students further to reflect on the following questions:

1. How will I ensure growth in my learning?
2. What do I bring to the learning?
3. How will I be active in the learning?

Home Study at MacKillop College is defined as all school related preparation, tasks and revision students engage with and attempt to complete outside of class time.

Home Study leads to learning that is:

- purposeful and relevant to student needs
- appropriate to the capability and phase of learning of the student
- encouraging of student independence as learners
- varied, challenging and clearly related to classwork
- considerate of student commitment to recreational, employment, family, religious and cultural activities.

Principles

MacKillop College is committed to an understanding of Home Study that engages students in personalised and independent learning to complement work undertaken in class. Consistent with the homework expectations established in the DEECD School Policy and Advisory Guide (2017), this may include:

- revision and critical reflection to consolidate learning (practising for mastery in all areas, e.g. musical instrument)
- application of knowledge and skills in new contexts (a topic of interest and/or authentic local issue, e.g. surveying local opinion)
- pursuit of individual and imaginative knowledge (investigating, research, writing, designing and making, e.g. preparation for an essay, development of a recipe)
- preparation for forthcoming classroom learning (collecting relevant materials items and information, e.g. media articles to inform an oral presentation).

Objectives

MacKillop College is committed to consistent Home Study practices, which:

- require due follow up or feedback from the students, parents/guardians and teachers
- is only set when purposeful
- equates to less than the contact time in the respective classroom and increases through the year levels
- is coordinated across learning areas and year levels to avoid unreasonable workloads for students
- has a scope and sequence as part of the intended curriculum.

Implementation

i) Principal commitment

The Principal is responsible for ensuring that:

- students, parents/guardians and teachers are advised of the College's Home Study expectations at the beginning of an academic year
- the objectives of this policy are integrated into practice.

ii) Staff commitment

The staff is responsible for ensuring that:

- the roles and responsibilities outlined in the current Home Study procedure are implemented.

This policy works in conjunction with the following policies, procedures and guidelines:

- The Assessment Policy
- The Learning and Teaching Policy
- The Home Study procedure
- MacKillop Subject Handbooks
- Home Study Procedure on PolicyPlus

Rory Kennedy
(Principal)

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