



LAMBERT SCHOOL

Homework Policy

Some regular homework is regarded as essential for educational achievement, particularly at the Secondary level. Homework should be treated with encouragement for its positive educational contribution. Students who develop a habit of home study and who are able to exercise self-discipline and a sense of responsibility in regularly meeting homework goals will benefit enormously in terms of self-esteem, time management, pride in their work and overall gains in learning. With this experience assignments at tertiary level will not be so burdensome and stressful for students due to being accustomed to homework and have the stamina for independent study away from the classroom. The time and place of homework are private allowing a more reflective response to ideas, questions and concepts. Students who have completed homework are better prepared mentally for classes and approach lessons with a positive mental set.

Infant Students

Being the first years of schooling students will be setting a strong foundation in Literacy and Numeracy. Students will have a home reading folder where they are expected to spend 10-15min each night practicing their sight words and reading level with support from home.

Primary Students

Primary students may do homework voluntarily and occasionally specific tasks and assignments will be prescribed. Students are encouraged to read each night to continue development in comprehension and fluency. Nothing could be more valuable than regular reading for enjoyment and learning.

Secondary Students

Secondary students should organise their homework allocations as follows.

A session being 30 minutes.

- **Maths**- 2 sessions per week
- **Creative Writing**- 1-2 sessions per week completing 1st draft and writing up good copy.
- **History & Current Events**- 1-2 sessions per week completing class work. Research and write up weekly topic discussed in class.
- **Languages**- 1 session per week revision
- **Science**- research and preparation for presentations
- **Music**- practice
- **Drama**- rehearse lines
- **English**- 1-2 sessions per week completing literature assignments & grammar
- **Art**- completing tasks as required

We understand that resources at home may be limited. We do not expect all homes to have internet access. If available this is a useful but not exclusive resource. Students are encouraged to join their local library so they can access both print and electronic resources. Students are encouraged to take homework obligations seriously. It is not intended that parents are burdened with having to force students to do homework. The adolescent years are often topsy-turvy enough without parents and their children coming into conflict over homework. Teachers follow up students who are reluctant or uncooperative in responding to homework obligations.

The Lambert School day is quite long compared with that of many secondary schools. Lessons start punctually at 8:30am, there are few interruptions to the program for administration and other non-teaching purposes. Our school day for secondary students is more than 6 hours and is devoted to direct teacher-student contact. There are no student free days and we benefit from smaller than normal class sizes. Although we regard our contact time as more concentrated than the norm, we do not believe that this renders homework unnecessary. We also acknowledge that students have varying lengths of travelling time but it is worth noting that some of our students who travel furthest are more responsive to homework obligations. While this is commendable, parents should be aware of the need to monitor over-commitment to homework where it may be detrimental to family life, social interactions, recreation and relaxation. Parents are encouraged to contact the school if there are any concerns or need support.