



# Girraween High School

## Science Homework and Assignment Policy

### ***Homework***

Homework is a valuable part of schooling and is often work to be completed by the student within 1-2 days. It will be given regularly and will contribute to both the half yearly and the yearly report outcomes. Students are expected to bring their homework diary to all lessons to record set work and complete the homework at a satisfactory level.

Consequences of failing to satisfactorily completing homework tasks will result in

- a lunch detention and a note in the diary for the parent/caregiver to sign
- and after 3 such failings a formal school letter will be sent home. A copy of this correspondence will be placed on the students school file as well as to the year adviser and deputies.

### ***Assignment***

Assignment work will be given regularly and will contribute to the assessment grades for both the half yearly and yearly reports. Students will be given sufficient time to complete the task (approx 7 days). And it is expected that all assignment work will be submitted on time and satisfactorily completed.

If a student is absent on the date the assignment work is due the student must hand this assignment on the day of return even if their Science lesson is not timetabled for that day. A note from parent/caregiver is required for any major assignment.

Failure to submit assignment work on the due date will result in a

- note sent home and a copy of this correspondence will be placed on the students school file as well as to the year adviser and deputies.
- mark deduction of 10% of the maximum mark per school day.

I have read and understood the Science homework & assignment policy

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*For more information refer to the school website:*

<http://www.girraween-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/faculties/science.html>

**The following is an excerpt from the Department of Education and Training Homework Policy:**

**PURPOSES OF HOMEWORK**

**Homework:**

- is a valuable part of schooling
- allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class
- provides training for students in planning and organising time
- develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources
- establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline which will serve students for the rest of their lives
- strengthens home-school links
- reaffirms the role of parents and caregivers with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their children
- challenges and extends gifted and talented children.

**Homework is most beneficial when:**

- it reinforces and extends class work and consolidates basic skills and knowledge
- it is challenging and purposeful, but not so demanding that it has adverse effects on the student's motivation
- parents or caregivers are involved in the formulation and implementation of the school's homework policy
- students take responsibility for their homework, supported by their parents or caregivers
- it is well coordinated and teacher expectations are well communicated
- it is set on a regular basis and establishes a routine of home study
- teachers set suitable amounts of homework which are varied and at an appropriate level considering the age, stage of schooling and capabilities of students
- it takes into account students' home responsibilities and extracurricular activities such as clubs, sport and part-time employment
- it is marked promptly and accurately
- feedback and follow-up are provided regularly to students
- it develops and extends the core learning skills of inquiry and independent study.

**TYPES OF HOMEWORK**

The amount of time that students are expected to spend on homework will depend upon the age, ability, home environment and extracurricular activities of students, including family and cultural obligations. It is important that students of all ages have opportunities for free time, leisure and physical activities outside of school.

**Types of homework include:**

- review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills, including:

- consolidation exercise eg maths, including memorisation of tables
- revising information about a current topic
- background reading
- researching topics for a class unit of work
- investigations eg science, social science
- researching
- information and retrieval skills eg using a home computer to find material on the Internet.

## **SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE**

### **High School Years 7-12 (Stages 4, 5 and 6)**

In high school, homework should develop- the students' habits of reviewing work undertaken in class.

Many schools find homework diaries useful to develop students' organisational skills and time management, and to improve home-school communication. As students move into the senior school, it is expected that homework demands will increase.

## **EXPECTATIONS**

### **Parents and caregivers can help by:**

- taking an active interest in homework
- ensuring that there is time set aside for homework
- encouraging and supporting students to complete homework
- providing, where possible, a dedicated place and desk for homework and study
- encouraging their children to read and take an interest in current events
- assisting teachers to monitor homework by signing completed work if requested and being aware of the amount of homework set
- communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to the homework
- alerting the school to any domestic or extracurricular activities, which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or corrected.

**Teachers will:**

- give homework related to class work
- ensure students are aware of what is expected of them, and how their work will be assessed
- give students sufficient time to complete their homework, taking into account, as far as possible, competing home obligations and extracurricular activities and homework set by other teachers
- give feedback promptly
- alert parents or caregivers of any developing problems concerning their children's homework and suggesting strategies that they can use to assist their children with their homework.

**Students can help by:**

- completing homework within the given time frame
- alerting parents or caregivers to homework expectations
- seeking assistance from teachers and parents or caregivers when difficulties arise
- ensuring homework is of a high standard
- organise their time to ensure that sufficient time is given to quality homework within set deadlines.