



Sydney
Technical
High School



HOMework GUIDE

FOR

PARENTS AND STUDENTS

an academically selective school for boys

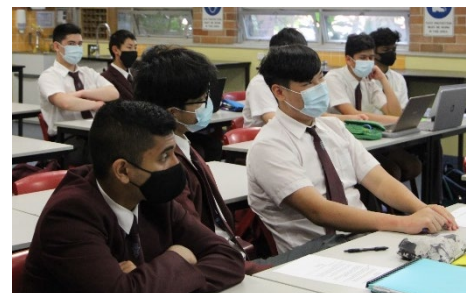
Homework is the consolidation of an authentic classroom learning process. In the context of academic life at Tech, it also allows for the development of life-long learning skills and effective study habits. Concentration, self-discipline and motivation come from this. It results in students being able to take responsibility for their own education as it fosters independent study and self regulation. It also provides parents with an insight into what is happening at school.

The nature and expectations of homework at high school can differ significantly from a primary school setting. Often, this can be a cause of conflict at home as students and parents become familiar with the new context. Adolescent boys, by nature of their own stage of development, are not always thorough in their communication of deadlines, priorities and responsibilities when it comes to talking to their parents about school. Regardless of this, it is only ever on very rare occasions, that when a student says, “I don’t have any homework” this is accurate.

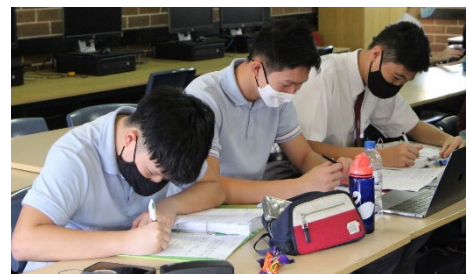
Teachers at Tech will regularly set work to be completed at home. The homework frequency, volume and type will vary across the calendar year between subjects. It is important to remember also that the teaching staff, through the school calendar, are always conscious of students’ workloads.

Below is a list of tasks that students, and their parents, should consider as high school ‘homework’. The notion of homework only being tasks set at the end of the lesson by the teacher for students to finish off at home for the next lesson, is not an accurate use of the term. Homework is more than that. Homework requires organisation, goal setting and forward planning.

1. Revise the day’s work from all lessons from that day. Identify the core terminology and concepts by making notes of these in summary form. This can be done via digital means in programs such as Notebook or at the back of the student’s workbook.
2. Complete set tasks due in next lesson/s.
3. Consult the school calendar or assessment booklet and work on upcoming assessments. The Assessment booklets are available for all years on the Intranet under the “School Notices” tab.
4. Revise for exams – practice exam papers are very good for this. Often, these are uploaded to Moodle for students. Once completed, students are encouraged to get feedback on this from their teachers.



5. Complete topic summaries.
6. Read prescribed texts – these are novels or other recommended readings associated with class topics.
Reading is a proven strategy at improving student's literacy standards.
7. Complete background reading about a topic before it is taught in class – this can assist in forming strong background knowledge.
8. Read widely – it may be a different text by the same author being studied in class or a text from the same genre or era.
9. Formative tasks – many subjects set formative writing tasks each week. These may also require students to read other student's work and give constructive feedback.
10. Stay informed – reading current affairs articles from Australian and international sources keeps students abreast of the world around them. It can also be a source of creativity and stimulus for other endeavours.
11. Practice speaking skills – public speaking can be a source of excitement or fear for students. Rehearsing or extending skills in the confines of home will always help.
12. Create something new – be inspired by something of interest in one subject and design or make another form of this in another medium.
13. Revisit the Assemblies page on Moodle to access resources created by the Year Advisers in past Welfare Assemblies – these will contain helpful and practical information and templates to help with study skills, time management, note taking and plagiarism.
14. Explore Google Classroom to offer help to your peers.



Encouraging students to adopt reflective and methodical approaches to their home studies will cultivate in them independent and positive growth mindsets.