

Vision

It is our vision to be an innovative and contemporary College that engages students and prioritises student agency. We are committed to following in the footsteps of Mary Ward by developing future ready students able to thrive in a changing world.

Loreto College, is a Catholic school, founded by the sisters of the IBVM, which bases its teaching on the gospel of Jesus. It provides students with a contemporary and innovative curriculum which provides students with the knowledge, skills, and values they will need to transition from school to work, training or University.

Loreto College education is an inclusive education of all students. An Inclusive Education means that all members of the school community are valued and supported to fully participate, learn, develop and succeed within an inclusive school culture.

Purpose

This policy clearly outlines the nature and purpose of home study at Loreto College who works in partnership with families to educate students to be future opportunities post-secondary school.

Home study is an opportunity for parents to participate in their child's education. Parents, in partnership with the College, should encourage their children to establish good homework patterns from Year 7. It can be difficult to develop these habits in later years, as students become more heavily involved in social life, recreational activities, and part-time employment.

Policy Statement

In partnership with families, Loreto College is entrusted with the care of young people and works together with families for the wellbeing of all students.

Loreto College believes all students are capable of learning. Students learn at different rates and through a variety of experiences, in a wide range of settings. We acknowledge that effective learning, and the learner's self-esteem, are closely linked, therefore learning should be intrinsically rewarding and feedback should be provided regularly.

Home study is an opportunity for parents to participate in their child's education. Parents, in partnership with the College, should encourage their children to establish good homework patterns from Year 7. It is very difficult to develop these habits in later years, as students become more heavily involved in social life, recreational activities, and part-time employment.

Principles

This policy is available on the College website.

- Students benefit from completing home study regularly. Home study helps them develop organisational and time-management skills, self-discipline, skills in using out-of-school resources and personal responsibility for learning.
- Students should use their school planner to assist in recording set home study and due dates for assessment. Students are taught in Year 7 how to use their planner most effectively.
- Students must use their college Learning Management System – SIMON, email, and College platforms. Parents can monitor completion of homework through PAM, this method provide a means of regular communication between parents and the school.
- Failure by students to complete home study on a regular basis will be followed up with parents.
- Middle Years 7 - 9 Home study is not an extra task; it enables the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials. Includes daily independent reading, revision and extension of class work, projects and assignments, essays, and research.

Procedural guidelines for families

How much time should be devoted to home study?

As a general guide:

- **Year 7** a minimum of one hour per night – 5 hours per week
- **Year 8** a minimum of one and a half hours per night – 7-8 hours per week
- **Year 9** a minimum of two hours per night – 10 hours per week
- **Year 10** a minimum of two and a half hours per night – 12-13 hours per week
- **Year 11** a minimum of three hours per night – 15 hours per week
- **Year 12** a minimum of three and a half hours per night – at least 17-18 hours a week

Relevant Key Documents

- Loreto College Teaching and Learning Policy 2021.
- Loreto College Learning Framework
- Loreto College Assessment and Reporting 2021
- Loreto College Using Data for Improving Student Performance Policy 2021
- Loreto College School Improvement Plan

- Student Learning Outcomes Improvement Policy 2021
- Homestudy Policy 2021

Relevant links

- Catholic Education Ballarat. 2018. Characteristics of a Highly Effective Catholic School
- Catholic Education Ballarat. 2018. School Improvement Framework Handbook
- Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority VCAA. VCE and VCAL Administration Handbook
- VCAA. 2015. The Victorian Curriculum F - 10 <https://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>
- VCAA Special Provision
<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vce/exams/specialprovision/specialprovision.aspx>

Relevant Legislation

- Disability Standards of Education 2005 <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2005L00767>
- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Strategy (2015)
<https://www.education.gov.au/national-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-education-strategy>

Responsibility

Assessment and Reporting Policy was created by the Curriculum Team made up of the Faculty Leaders whose responsibility is to disseminate the policy within their faculty groups.

Communication

The policy was approved and created by the Curriculum Team, Curriculum Design Team and Leadership Team in 2021 and is available on the College website.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years (2024) but will be reviewed earlier to take account of any changed technology, legislation, expectations, or practices.