Homework Policy

Aim:

- To respond to the community desire for a more regulated and clear homework/assignment program at The Hills Sports High School
- To give guidelines to teachers, parents and students about the quantity of homework expected.
- To give definitions of what constitutes homework and assignments.

Definitions, Homework and Assignments:

- Assignments can be defined as longer pieces of work that require several weeks to complete. This may involve research and may be presented in a variety of forms.
- Homework can be defined as requiring, at most, a week to complete and consisting of completion of class work, and small reinforcement or extension exercises.
- Homework in the English faculty is not deemed to be separate from class and assigned work. Students are expected to complete set class work for their prescribed study units both in class and at home. In addition they are also expected to complete their responses to the compulsory assigned tasks by the end of each unit. Thus they have two components to complete. Additional homework to these components not set in English as it would detract from time to be spent on them.

Organisation of Homework:

Homework / Assignments will be given on a regular basis, marked and returned promptly.
Setting of Assignments

- Assignments for both juniors and seniors should be given to students for each subject during the year in order to fulfil the requirements of the Board of Studies Syllabi. The task to be completed by the student should be clearly defined on a sheet distributed to all students.
- A copy should be lodged with the library for students who have lost the sheet to use for copying.
- The length of the expected student response, course outcomes, a brief marking scale and the value of the assignment to the end of course or semester result should also be clearly specified.
- Penalties for lateness and non-submission should be described.
- Assignments should be set at the rate of a subject maximum of 1 per term for students in years 7 to 10. A register of assignment dates should be kept on the wall in the common room which will ensure that few clashes occur.
- For seniors in years 10, 11 and 12 it is inescapable that assessment work be completed during holiday time. Assessment tasks / Assignments should not be due during the two weeks prior to or during exam weeks.
- Year 7/8/9 students should not be given assignment work to complete over the holidays.

Setting of Homework

- Homework tasks should be clearly described by the teacher in class and it is the students’ responsibility to record the homework given in the school diaries provided.
- Communication with parents using the student diaries should form an important part of the homework process.
- Students should have homework each week for most subjects except two weeks prior to examinations.
- Parents and students should expect to receive half an hour to an hour per week as a minimum for most subjects. Some subjects such as mathematics may require more frequent homework.
- Homework should not be set for years 7, 8, 9 so that school holiday time is the only time for its completion.
- Year 10, 11 and 12 may need to be set assessment work over the holiday periods.

Marking of Homework

- Homework should be marked regularly either in class or at home. This will provide valuable feedback to both the student and parent regarding student progress.
- Students not completing homework adequately are not meeting the requirements of their course. Parents should be notified and the matter resolved as soon as possible.
- Warning letters and letters of concern should be sent as soon as possible.