COLLEGE VISION
Salesian College is an inclusive and welcoming Catholic Faith Community in the spirit of St John Bosco. Here at ‘Rupertswood’ we take pride in our unique heritage and environment. We value engagement and excellence in learning for a life committed to making a difference in our world.

We are a welcoming COMMUNITY that fosters an atmosphere of joy and optimism.

We strive for engagement in LEARNING for which we are collectively responsible.

We promote the pursuit of EXCELLENCE in all aspects of life.

We are inspired by our FAITH to serve others and develop as resilient, thoughtful and caring citizens of the world.

“A Faith Community committed to Excellence in Learning”

PREAMBLE
Homestudy is an integral part of Salesian College's approach to helping all pupils maximise their achievements and to develop a life-long habit of independent learning. Homestudy supports and complements the learning process beyond the classroom. It bridges the gap between learning at school and learning at home. It reinforces work done in class and helps develop skills such as research and time management. Homestudy can assist in the development of positive study techniques and encourages students to be responsible for their own learning. The setting of regular and consistent homestudy assists students to establish the habits of study, concentration and self discipline. Homestudy is an opportunity for parents to engage in their child’s learning and to see the progress of their child. This can strengthen the relationships between students, parents and teachers.

POLICY AIMS
The College Homestudy Policy has been developed to:

- maximise learning opportunities
- assist with the development of life-long learning habits
- enable students to strive for excellence
- promote a commitment to education
- support the work that is taking place in the classroom

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
The guiding principles for the College with regards to Homestudy are that it should be:

- appropriate to the student’s skill level and age.
- interesting, challenging and where appropriate be open ended.
- balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities.
- purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum.
- assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided.
TYPES OF HOMESTUDY
The three main types of homestudy are:

1. Practice exercises - providing students with the opportunities to apply new knowledge, or review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills, including:
   - consolidation exercise
   - Practising for mastery
   - Revising information about a current topic
   - Practising words or phrases learnt in LOTE
   - Reading for pleasure
   - Essay writing
   - Physical Education Skills

2. Preparatory homestudy - providing opportunities for students to gain background information on a unit of study so that they are better prepared for future lessons, including:
   - Background reading
   - Reading an English text for class discussion
   - Researching topics for a class unit of work
   - Collecting items and articles for assignments, etc.

3. Extension assignments - encouraging students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively, including:
   - Writing e.g. a book review
   - Making or designing something
   - Investigations
   - Researching
   - Information and retrieval skills
   - Monitoring advertisements, TV programs, newspaper stories, etc.

Wherever possible homestudy should recognise the place of technology in today's world and the benefits of using technology such as computers, email and the Internet for organising and accessing information. However, we should have regard for equity issues when setting homestudy that relies upon the use of technology. Students who do not have access to such technology at home should not be disadvantaged.

HOMESTUDY TIME ALLOWANCE
Salesian College recognises that the amount of time that students are expected to spend on homestudy will depend upon the age, ability, home environment and extracurricular activities of students, including family and cultural obligations. All students are expected to complete homestudy and submit work by the designated due date. Experience suggests that the following amount of time on homestudy will meet most students’ commitments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Hours per week</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Hours per week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>5 – 6</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>6 – 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>7 – 8</td>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>10 Hours per week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students at VCE are required to manage a more complex and varied homestudy regimen. This will include completion of class work, extension activities, long-term projects and skills preparation. Year 11 and Year 12 students will be required to use some holiday time for preparation, completion of tasks, skills practice and examination preparation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Hours per subject per week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>2 – 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12</td>
<td>3 – 4</td>
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</tbody>
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HOMESTUDY EXPECTATIONS

1. For Students:
   - Being aware of the importance of homestudy.
   - Being aware of the Salesian College homestudy policy.
   - Completing homestudy, assignments etc. within the given time frame.
   - Alerting parents or caregivers to homestudy expectations.
   - Seeking assistance from teachers and parents or caregivers when difficulties arise.
   - Using the Student Diary to record homestudy requirements.
   - Showing their homestudy to their parents or caregivers.
   - Ensuring homestudy is completed to a high standard.
   - Organising their time to ensure that sufficient time is given to quality homestudy within set deadlines.
   - Be accepting of appropriate consequences for non-completion of set homestudy.

2. For Teachers:
   - Explaining to students and their parents or caregivers the purpose and benefits of homestudy.
   - Ensuring students and parents or caregivers are aware of the Salesian College homestudy policy.
   - Providing quality homestudy activities related to class work.
   - Staff should not give students time in class to complete homestudy, nor ask students to simply finish class work for homestudy. Homestudy is when students develop mastery over the guided discovery of the classroom. Students are much more likely to understand the importance of class time if every moment is planned and focussed on learning activities.
   - Setting a suitable amount of relevant homestudy which is appropriate to the ability of each student.
   - Ensuring that students are aware of what is expected of them, and how their work will be assessed.
   - Giving students sufficient time to complete their homestudy, taking into account, as far as possible, competing home obligations and extracurricular activities and homestudy set by other teachers.
   - Marking homestudy promptly and appropriately, maintaining homestudy records and providing feedback to students and parents or caregivers.
   - Alerting parents or caregivers of any developing problems concerning their children’s homestudy and suggesting strategies that they can use to assist their children with their homestudy.
   - Applying appropriate consequences when dealing with students who have not completed homestudy tasks.

3. For Parents and Caregivers:
   - Taking an active interest in homestudy.
   - Ensuring that there is time set aside for homestudy.
   - Encouraging and supporting students to complete homestudy.
   - Providing, where possible, a dedicated place and desk for homestudy and study.
   - Encouraging their children to read and take an interest in current events.
   - Assisting teachers to monitor homestudy by signing completed work if requested and being aware of the amount of homestudy set.
   - Communicating with teachers, Home Group teachers or House Co-ordinators any concerns about the nature of homestudy and their children’s approach to the homestudy.
   - Alerting the school to any domestic or extracurricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homestudy is being set or corrected.