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Independent Learning Guidelines

Years 7 - 10

*Aspirational Community of Learners and Learning + Learner Clarity*

# Independent Learning is any learning that is completed outside of the classroom.

**There are four types of Independent Learning at SJC:**

1. **Homework** for the purpose of consolidating or preparing for learning.
   1. Usually teacher directed
   2. Recorded in student diary/electronically (Canvas, Outlook)
   3. Usually has a due date
   4. May involve completing work from class, practising newly learned concepts, or preparing for an upcoming class
   5. May be given to a whole class, a group of learners or an individual depending on needs
   6. May be given self, peer, or teacher feedback
2. **Revision and** [**spaced practice**](https://www.oxfordlearning.com/what-is-spaced-practice/) for the purposes of ensuring understanding and meeting the Learning Intentions and Success Criteria of the Unit, preparing for exams, and retaining information.
   1. Going back over class and Canvas notes
   2. Self-testing – KWL charts, dot-to-dot connections, summarising, visualising, graphic organisers, etc.
   3. Extended and Short Response Writing Practice
   4. Revising prior task feedback
   5. Online quiz/module practice (Canvas, Education Perfect, Stile, Writer’s Toolbox, etc.)
3. **Assessment Preparation** for the purpose of completing assignments
   1. Reading and annotating task sheets and Standards Elaborations
   2. Cross-checking notes and using prior knowledge
   3. Using scaffolding documents to plan work
   4. Preparing for and meeting checkpoints
   5. Drafting & Crafting
   6. Responding to feedback
   7. Editing and Revising
4. **Extra-Curricular** for the purpose of holistic learning and wellbeing.
   1. Independent Reading: learners in Years 7 – 10 should aim to read an own-choice text for 10-20 minutes each day.
   2. Goal setting: reviewing and working towards the goals set in Joey’s Way
   3. Co-curricular: attending music rehearsals, individual music practice and sports practice
   4. Wellbeing: practising mindfulness, exercising, etc.
   5. Careers – check the [St Joseph's College Toowoomba (sjccareers.com.au)](https://sjccareers.com.au/) website and complete the activities.
   6. Service Learning - contribute to family and community life through acts of service

# Support for Independent Learning

1. **Academic Support** is a program offered to support parents and learners in meeting the expectations of Independent Learning at SJC. Teachers may request that a student attends Academic Support due to a missed checkpoint or other requirement, or students may wish to attend voluntarily to seek support.

If a teacher requests for a student to attend, an Academic Support Letter will be sent to parents & carers to confirm attendance. Parents & carers are asked to respond to this notification to ensure students are supervised and teachers are aware of their attendance.

1. **Subject Tutorials** are offered for most core subjects and these times are advertised in the newsletter, on Facebook, and on the noticeboards and TVs around the College. Tutorials are opportunities for students to work with their teacher, other teachers, or peers in order to seek assistance, practice or extend themselves.
2. **Homework Club** is offered once a week by the Learning Enhancement Team. It provides an opportunity for all students to get assistance on assessment and homework across any subject area.

# Independent Learning timing guidelines

These are a guide only—timing will depend on the individual learner’s approach to the tasks and the amount of Homework set. If there is no set **Homework**, students should aim to complete **Revision and Spaced Practice**, **Assessment Preparation** or **Extra Curricular** activities.

**Year 7**

1 hour (including reading) - 4 nights a week and, where needed, an hour on the weekend. More time may be required during assessment time.

**Year 8**

1 hour 15 minutes (including reading) - 4 nights a week and, where needed, an hour on the weekend. More time may be required during assessment time.

**Years 9 & 10**

1.5 hours (including reading) - 4 nights a week and, where needed, more on the weekend. Additional time may be required during assessment time.

Students in Year 10 who are completing a School Based Apprenticeship or who are completing Certificate Courses through TAFE must also ensure that they are using this time to:

* work towards completion in their coursework.
* catch up on missed schoolwork due to their time learning off campus.

**St Joseph's College Teaching and Learning Framework**

![Chart, diagram

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