HOMEWORK VS STUDY, WHAT’S THE DIFFERENCE?

In Primary School life was different, students just did the work their teacher asked them to do. So if students had homework and assignments, they completed them then stopped.

In High School things are different. Students are expected to do schoolwork for a certain amount of time each night. For years 7 and 8 this is between 1-1.5 hours, for years 9 and 10; between 2-2.5 hours and in the senior years as much as 3.5 hours. This is where the general concept of study comes into play. If students have no more homework or assignments to complete, then they are supposed to actually go looking for what else they could do to help improve their understanding of what they are learning at school – and it is this that is often referred to as ‘study’.

Basically study means doing activities that will ultimately help get better marks at school. So each night, students should do their homework and assignments first, then spare time from the total time allocated for schoolwork is for study. This might mean reviewing what they did in class over the last day or even over the last week. It might mean doing extra questions in areas they find difficult. It might mean making study notes. It might mean doing questions from an additional textbook or study guide. It might be making flashcards on a topic.

Students may also use the time to develop their own study skills through the use of the ELES Study Skills Handbook, available on the Resource Centre web page at: Info Assist > Study Skills, clicking on the computer photo. They can work through the 26 units and track their results using the tracking system found in the For Students tab.

Students may wish to check out the new content added to the ELES Study Skills Handbook this month by clicking on the For Students tab and then clicking on the What’s New icon (parcel).

1. Podcast about homework versus study.
2. Study planners to print out for home study.

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