



WPS Homework Policy

Homework Policy

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[Link to Full Homework Policy](#)

Philosophy

Philosophy

- *The purposes of homework are to improve the learning processes, to aid in the mastery of skills, and to create and stimulate interest on the part of the student.*
- *Homework is a learning activity that should increase in complexity with the maturity of the student.*
- *Homework assignments should take into consideration individual differences of students such as health, ability, conditions at home, and educational resources at home.*

Homework should be:

- Planned and well organized by the teacher.
- Consistent with the needs and abilities of students.
- Purposeful and meaningful to the students.
- Reviewed with feedback given to students in a timely manner.

Homework should help the student to:

- Learn to work independently and become self-reliant.
- Think, plan, organize and apply.
- Extend proficiency in effective habit and skills.
- Increase knowledge and its use.
- Develop insights and stimulate creativity.

Research

Research

Homework can benefit student achievement when the following guidelines are followed:

- **Assign purposeful homework.**
 - *Legitimate purposes for homework include introducing new content, practicing a skill or process that students can do independently but not fluently, elaborating on information that has been learned in class to deepen students' knowledge, and providing opportunities for students to explore topics of their own interest.*
- **Design and manage homework assignments to maximize the chances that students will be able to complete it.**
 - *Administrators/Teachers/Parents and/or Guardians should carefully monitor the amount of homework assigned so that it is appropriate to students' age levels and individual abilities.*
- **Parent/Guardian involvement: engage parents/guardians in appropriate ways**
 - *For example, as a sounding board to help students summarize what they learned from the homework) without requiring parents to act as teachers or to police students' homework completion.*

Administrative Responsibilities

The School Administrator will:

- Review the established homework policy with the teaching staff.
- Ensure that the teaching staff monitors and follows guidelines.
- Develop specific guidelines within the framework of the general policy where needed.
- Provide professional development workshops and/or informational materials regarding homework best practices for the teaching staff.
- Fully communicate the policy to parents and the community.

Teacher Responsibilities

The classroom teacher will:

- Set out homework expectations early in the school year and implement them consistently.
- Implement a routine, consistent system for assigning homework.
- Assign homework congruent with students' needs.
- Make clear in assigning homework to students the purposes of the assignment, the guidelines for completion, and the basis for evaluating the work performed.
- Monitor and check for student understanding of the assignment and the skills necessary to successfully complete the homework.
- Provide students with rubrics that will be the basis of evaluation for long-term projects, reports, and research.
- Collect homework assignments on the date specified.
- Review, acknowledge, and return homework within one or two days for daily assignments.
- Be consistent about how homework assignments are assessed.
- Assess homework through the use of rating scales, checklists, anecdotal records, and scoring rubrics that identify specific criteria for success.
- Utilize homework to locate problems in student progress and to individualize instruction.
- Confer with families regarding concerns as they arise and make proper accommodations
- Strive to work with colleagues to develop a consistent pattern for homework expectations between and across grade levels, disciplines and courses, and work to coordinate assignments across disciplines.

Family Responsibilities

Families should:

- Provide encouragement and support; show interest in their children's work.
- Assist students outside of school in developing good study habits.
- Provide supplies needed to complete homework assignments
- Evaluate their children's activities to be sure they have sufficient time to study.
- Schedule a regular time for homework completion. Question students about their assignments. Monitor homework completion and the efficient use of time.
- Encourage students to complete their own homework independently, unless otherwise specified.
- Confer with teachers regarding homework when concerns arise
- When provided, review teacher comments on homework assignments. Supervise the signing and returning of homework forms, notes, and schedules as required by the teacher.
- Acknowledge responsible homework habits and effort.

Student Responsibilities

The student should:

- Understand homework assignment before leaving school.
- Have a routine location and system to record daily assignments (e.g., planner, assignment book)
- Take home all necessary materials to complete assignments.
- Schedule and organize homework time that is free from distraction and compatible with family and/or after-school activities.
- Complete and return homework on time.
- Confer with teachers regarding homework concerns.

5 Characteristics of Best Homework Practices

- 1. Purpose of assignments**
 - Should be meaningful to student learning/extension of the classroom
- 2. Efficiency of assignments**
 - Does not take a long time to complete, but requires critical thinking
- 3. Ownership of assignments**
 - Give students choices connecting homework to their interests / real world
- 4. Competence of assignments**
 - Differentiate homework to the appropriate level of difficulty
- 5. Design of assignments**
 - Promotes engagement, innovation and creativity