

R 2330 HOMEWORK

A. Content of Homework

1. Any homework assigned to pupils must be closely integrated with the curriculum. There should be a direct relationship between classroom studies and assigned homework. Homework should reinforce and extend the lessons learned in school.
2. Homework should help pupils learn by providing practice in the mastery of skills, experience in gathering information and integrating knowledge, and an opportunity to remediate learning problems.
3. Homework should help develop the pupil's responsibility and provide an opportunity for the pupil to exercise independent work and judgment.
4. Homework assignments should include only those exercises and activities that a pupil is expected to accomplish independently.
5. Homework assignments should not require the use of research or resource tools that are not readily available in the pupils' homes or in sufficient quantity in the public or school library, or available for borrowing from the classroom.
6. Homework assignments should not require extensive copy work unless the writing of numbers or script is the skill being taught.
7. Homework must never serve a punitive or disciplinary function; learning, in school or at home, must always be a positive experience, rewarding for its own sake.

B. Assignment of Homework

1. The number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments should be based on the ability and needs of the individual pupil.
2. Homework should be assigned with clarity so that pupils know what is expected of them.



3. Teachers should observe the following guidelines for the introduction and assignment of homework. Time allotments include all aspects of the homework assignment--outside reading, research, drill work, and the like.
 - a. Kindergarten

Home experiences related to classroom lessons should be assigned to pupils when appropriate.
 - b. Grades 1, 2, and 3

Formal homework assignments should be introduced in grade one. Lessons should be geared to the needs and abilities of individual pupils. The amount of time allocated should increase through the grades from ten to thirty minutes several times a week. In addition, pupils will be expected to read at least twenty minutes at home each day.
 - c. Grades 4 and 5

Homework should be regularly scheduled, should require no more than sixty minutes of preparation daily, and should be based on the needs and abilities of individual pupils. In addition, pupils will be expected to read at least thirty minutes at home each day.
 - d. Grades 6, 7, and 8

Homework should be regularly scheduled, should require no more than ninety minutes of preparation daily, and should be based on the needs and abilities of individual pupils.
 - e. Grades 9 through 12

High school pupils should be assigned homework in each major academic subject on a regular basis. Periodic assignments should be given in art and music courses. Both long and short term assignments should be given in all courses. A high school pupil should typically devote at least one hundred twenty minutes to home study on school nights. Pupils may choose to spend time during weekends and vacation periods on long term assignments.



4. To the degree reasonably possible, teachers should plan and announce homework assignments, especially long term assignments, well in advance so that pupils can adjust their schedules appropriately.
5. Pupils may be encouraged or required to maintain a homework assignment book, in which the pupil records his/her daily assignment. Pupils and parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may be asked to record the time necessary to complete each assignment; this information will assist teachers in verifying their estimates of the length of time a given assignment will require.
6. A teacher may accede to a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) request for additional homework assignments for a pupil, provided the teacher, in his/her discretion, believes that the pupil will benefit from the assignment.
7. A pupil who has been absent from school will be given an opportunity to make up homework assignments, provided the assignments are completed during a period equal to the length of his/her absence. That period may be extended for the completion of long term assignments.
8. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of an absent pupil may request homework assignments to be completed during the pupil's absence. Teachers are expected to comply with any such request.

Issued: 7 December 2009

