

## Guidelines for Implementation of Homework Policy and Principles

<b>Senior Grades: Grade 10 - 12</b>	
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>Homework activities review, reinforce, and extend what is learned in the classroom. Homework provides students with the benefits of independent study, teamwork, and the opportunity to make responsible decisions both in school and away from school. Independent study will continue to be developed, refined, and expected.</p> <p>Students are expected to be aware of the importance of homework in the evaluation process, to complete their homework with minimal parental support, and to make up work missed because of absence.</p>
<b>Samples of Appropriate Homework Activities</b>	<p>In the Specialization Years, homework assignments which extend the concepts introduced in the classroom program may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• preparing essays, Independent Study Projects, and major assignments,</li> <li>• developing reflection papers, journals, and survey work,</li> <li>• using various strategies to solve problems,</li> <li>• collaborating in group work.</li> </ul> <p>Activities that promote proficiency in basic skills may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• applying research skills through analyzing information from various types of media,</li> <li>• practising editing skills,</li> <li>• applying formulas,</li> <li>• practising mathematics operations,</li> <li>• preparing and practising oral assignments,</li> <li>• practising French and International Languages exercises,</li> <li>• studying for tests .</li> </ul>
<b>Projects/Major Assignments</b>	<p>In addition to work assigned to be completed in class, and homework assigned on a daily basis, a maximum of one Independent Study Project/ major assignment per course will be assigned. Clear timelines, expectations and criteria for evaluation will be provided as part of course outlines which are presented to students at the beginning of each semester. Every effort will be made by school staff to permit students ample time to complete their major projects.</p> <p>To avoid inequitable burdens on students, teachers should respond favourably to student requests and adjust timelines or grant concessions to students who are burdened with assignments due in several courses at the same time.</p>
<b>Assessment</b>	<p>Students are responsible for knowing what is expected of them, for recognizing the importance of homework in the evaluation process, and for understanding how their work will be evaluated. They are also expected to complete their homework with minimal parental support, and to make up work missed because of absence.</p> <p>Homework must be included as part of the evaluation scheme in calculating final course marks.</p> <p>Some 'daily homework' assignments may be not assessed. However, all project work will be accepted on the due date, and assessed in detail (corresponding to the importance of the project). Assessment will focus on completion of the task, quality of the work, and directions for improvement. As a 'best practice', teachers set a reasonable timetable for their feedback (e.g. 2-3 weeks) as part of the criteria for project assignments.</p>

<p><b>Assessment continued....</b></p>	<p>Penalties will be assigned for work that is late, incomplete, or not done, after due consideration in the case of extenuating circumstances.</p> <p>Peer/ self-evaluation methods are valuable exercises in teaching students how to assess their own and others' work, but student evaluations should not be given undue weight in grade score calculations.</p>
<p><b>Frequency</b></p>	<p>Homework is to be assigned regularly, but not necessarily nightly.</p> <p>Recognizing that students work at different rates, students in the Specialization Years should expect to do 1.5 to 3 hours' homework per evening, including both 'daily homework' and ISP/major assignment work. Assignments in each course should require no more than an appropriate proportion of the recommended time allotment. Demands should be consistent and fair throughout the year, but student workload may at times be more demanding than these guidelines, depending on the types of courses in which students are enrolled in a particular semester.</p>
<p><b>Home-School Partnership</b></p> <p>In this document, the term 'parent' is intended to refer to every parent, guardian, or person who has primary responsibility for the well-being of a child.</p>	<p>Homework is the responsibility of the student to complete.</p> <p>Parents share with teachers responsibility for the educational success of their children, and should participate actively in students' learning and growing process.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognize that the completion of homework activities is integral to school success;</li> <li>• become aware of teachers' expectations with regard to homework by paying careful attention to directions and criteria for assignments, and by attending curriculum nights;</li> <li>• make use of an environment in the home conducive to the completion of homework activities;</li> <li>• establish daily set times for homework completion;</li> <li>• make homework completion first priority;</li> <li>• value self-directed/ independent learning;</li> <li>• seek and provide support, and communicate about completion when necessary;</li> <li>• arrange to have any forms, evaluated assignments or tests signed or returned as requested by the teacher.</li> <li>• manage their time by spreading work on long-term assignments across several weeks, and</li> <li>• record assignments and accomplishments in their calendar/ day planner, both to enhance time management skills and to provide their teachers with documented feedback about course homework loads.</li> </ul> <p>Parents whose first language is not English are encouraged to promote their children's learning in their own language. Interpreters are available through the Board's Multilingual Services to facilitate communication between home and school.</p> <p><b>In the Senior Grades,</b> parents should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• become aware of teachers' expectations with regard to homework,</li> <li>• continually inquire from their children about ongoing homework responsibilities.</li> </ul> <p>Studies indicate that part-time employment of 10-12 hours per week is acceptable for students. Students should not exceed that amount of time, for fear of harming their academic progress.</p>