

## HOMEWORK

The term "homework" refers to an assignment to be prepared during a period of supervised study in class or outside of class or which requires individual work in the study hall or at home. Homework shall be meaningful and connected to the content curriculum of instruction.

The purposes of homework are to improve the learning process, to aid in the mastery of skills, to reinforce skills and knowledge taught in class, to instill a sense of responsibility and to create and stimulate interest on the part of the student.

Homework is a learning activity which should increase in complexity and time with the maturity of the student. With increased maturity, learning should become an independent activity. This should be established through consistent assignments which encourage students to investigate for themselves, and to work independently, as well as with others.

Teachers should assign meaningful homework assignments. The purpose should always be clearly understood by both the teacher and the student. Homework assignments should be consistent in terms of the amount given each day and the time required for each assignment so that a pattern of meaningful homework can be established by the teacher and/or the student. When major homework projects are assigned, clear time expectations shall be established and communicated to the student and parents as appropriate.

Homework should not require the use of reference materials not readily available in homes, school library or the public library and should require the use of those materials only when the student has had instruction in the use of them, and sufficient time is allowed to obtain them.

Homework is assigned:

- ◆ To start students in the process of carrying through independent reference work and writing.
- ◆ To carry out more intensive reading than time allows during the school day.
- ◆ To provide a means of "pulling together" a child's learning experience in school and out of school.
- ◆ Practice in any of the basic skills.
- ◆ Reinforcement of lessons taught in class.
- ◆ Make up work for periods of extended absence.

Homework shall be used for academic development and should never be used as a means of punishing a class or individual student.

Reference: IKB-R

**Legal Reference:**

*NH Code of Administrative Rules Section Ed. 306.14(b), Policy on Homework*

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