



CATALYST WORLD SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY 2020 RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS

As per the National Homework Policy 2018 released by the Ministry of Education, Homework is Teacher-assigned and teacher-monitored work that students are asked to do outside of the classroom context, related to and supportive of the learning that takes place in school. Homework can be of various formats including play. It is a purposeful learning task related to the topic, assigned to the students by the teacher in order to keep them meaningfully involved outside the classroom and to provide opportunities for students to be responsible for their own learning. The aim of homework is to reinforce, practice and refine the knowledge and skills learnt in the class, to provide them with the opportunity for learning beyond the classroom, to encourage them to take initiative and responsibility of self-regulated learning and study beyond what was explained and further keep them engaged through task completion and self-discipline.

Homework assignments that increase the effectiveness and quality of homework include:

- work that is directly related to what has already been explained and/or practiced in class
- work that gives students the opportunity to practice what they have already learnt in class by engaging in activities that help them understand more deeply the content or practice procedures they have been introduced to in class
- work that gives students the opportunity to apply what they have already learnt in class
- work that offers students the opportunity to be creative and further explore their interests in relation to what has already been taught in class
- work that allows students in the last 3 years of secondary school, to benefit from homework that encourages them to prepare for a topic that will be explored in class; this will assist students to identify what they already know about the topic or read about the topic prior to it being introduced in class

The hours of Homework for different grades is as follows:

S.No.	Class	Hours of Homework
1.	PS - II	2 hours per week
2.	III - V	2 hours per week
3.	VI- VIII	1 hour per day
4.	IX - XII	2 hours per day

Diversity of homework/ Choice of homework - Considering the different learning needs of students, homework assignments may need to vary. It is also helpful to give students some choice in homework tasks to encourage them to have more ownership of their learning. There are three major kinds of meaningful homework assignments:

1. Practice homework: Work that reviews and reinforces skills, concepts, dispositions and values taught in class; the more the students understand what they have learnt, the more effective the homework will be.
2. Extension homework: Work that assists students to explore and refine their learning by applying what they have learnt through problem solving, and thinking creatively and critically; it helps students make connections between what they have learnt and the real world.
3. Preparation homework: Work that prepares students in a general manner for a forthcoming lesson or topic. This is effective for the last three years of secondary school. It will assist students to identify their prior knowledge and bring their life experiences as they relate to the topic at hand. Preparation homework is NOT meant to substitute a lesson or class.

Reporting of homework: Homework is meant to be part of formative rather than summative assessment; that is, homework is part of assessment for learning and not assessment of learning. Homework should not be included in report cards since homework is primarily meant to support learning that has taken place in class. If students regularly miss homework, every case needs to be investigated on the basis of its context; it is important that students take responsibility to complete homework.

Role of Parents: The roles and responsibilities of the family in relation to homework include:

- Develop a positive and productive approach to homework.
- Read the homework alongside students in early years to ensure clear understanding, and when applicable involve the students in learning opportunities during everyday activities at home.
- Assist students to strike a balance between homework, family time, and recreational activities.
- Offer assistance to children whose first language is different from the language of teaching by discussing the homework in the student's first language.
- Take on a supervisory role and provide partial assistance to students instead of doing the assignment for them.
- Provide a suitable place for the students to complete their homework; for younger learners it might be helpful to assign a particular time to the homework.
- Parents and guardians are encouraged to assist their children, even when homework is not provided, by reading to/with them, and get their children involved in activities such as sports, crafts and cultural activities.