

Homework Policy

Owendale-Gagetown

Guidelines for the Assignment of Homework and Responsibilities of Students, Staff and Parents

I. Purpose:

Homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of the Owen-Gage staff to assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Homework should provide students with the opportunity to apply information they have learned, complete unfinished class assignments, and develop independence. Homework grades may be modified based on students' individual needs (i.e. IEP, 504 Plans).

Homework assignments include:

- **Practice:** exercises to follow classroom instruction
- **Preview:** assignments to prepare for subsequent lessons
- **Extension:** assignments to transfer new skills or concepts to new situations
- **Creative:** activities to integrate many skills toward the production of a response or product

II. Time

Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills, and selected course load. If your child is spending an unacceptably long time doing homework, you should contact your child's teachers to help find an explanation. Students are encouraged to pursue non-assigned, independent, leisure reading.

III. Late Work Policies

Students are expected to turn work in on time. Students who turn in late assignments will receive only partial credit for their work. However, students are encouraged to turn in all assignments, even when late, so that they may keep up with the class and the skills needed to be successful in the class. This policy does not support or condone late work. Partial credit is granted only as an incentive for the student to complete all assignments, even when late.

- **Unless otherwise stated by the teacher, all assignments are due the next day for full credit.**
- **Assignments turned in one (1) day late will be given a maximum of 70% credit. (Example: 10 points originally possible X .7 (70%) = 7 points maximum for late assignment)**
- **Assignments turned in two (2) or more days late will be given a maximum of 50% (.5) credit at the discretion of the teacher.**

Additional Considerations:

- **Students who miss homework because of an absence will receive the opportunity to make up missed work. Students are given one (1) calendar**

day for each day absent plus one (1) extra day to turn in their work.
(Example: 2 days absent = 3 days for makeup (2+1))

- It is the students' responsibility to get work prior to a pre-arranged absence and to turn the work in when returning to school.
- It is the students' responsibility to ask for work that is missed due to illness or an absence for any other reason on the day that they return.
- A student who does not use class time that is provided for working on their assignments, and/or is disruptive may not be allowed to turn work in late for credit at the discretion of the teacher.

IV. Major Projects

Major Projects include research reports, book reports, major essays, and other assignments teachers designate as major projects. Work on these projects may require the student to exceed the normal minutes of homework per night. However, the intent is that the homework on major assignments is to be spread over an extended period of days.

Responsibilities of Staff:

- Assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework that reinforces classroom learning and provides the foundation for future learning.
- Give clear instructions and make sure students understand the purpose of the assignment.
- Give feedback and/or correct homework and other assignments in a timely manner.
- Communicate with other teachers, the counselor, administrator, and paraprofessionals to support student learning.
- Communicate with parents regularly and contact them if a pattern of late, incomplete or poor quality homework develops.

Responsibilities of Parents:

- Establish a consistent, uninterrupted study time each day.
- Establish a quiet, well-lit study area where the student can work.
- Monitor student's organization and daily list of assignments in their agenda.
- Help student work to find the answer, not to just get homework done.
- Be supportive when the student gets frustrated with difficult assignments.
- Contact teachers to stay well informed about the student's learning process and current grades. Check on missing work.

Responsibilities of Students:

- Write down assignments in the "student planner".
- Be attentive in class, use class time effectively, and be sure all assignments are clear; don't be afraid to ask questions if necessary
- Set aside a regular time for studying/homework.
- Find a quiet, well-lit study area to do homework and study.
- Work on homework independently whenever possible, so that it reflects your ability and understanding.
- Produce quality work.
- Make sure assignments are done according to the given instructions and completed on time.