

NEW LIFE ACADEMY ELEMENTARY HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

HOMEWORK

The educators at New Life Academy recognize the importance of assigning meaningful and quality homework to students. Homework routinely assigned and assessed, using specific guidelines, results in student achievement, independence, and responsibility and serves as a vital link between school and home.

Homework can be:

- **In Class Assignments** are assigned to be completed in class, but some student may need additional time to complete this work.
- **Homework**, the daily, meaningful, quality work assigned to students to be completed during non-instructional hours to increase student knowledge and understanding.

Homework has four purposes:

1. **Practice** and application new learning to get as close to mastery as possible.
2. **Preparation** for a new lesson or unit of study in a text for the next class meeting.
3. **Study** to review content to prepare for a test.
4. **Extend or elaborate** instruction and learning by investigating an idea or concept learned.

The Teacher's Roles

- Teachers assign homework that **matches students' skills and take** an appropriate amount of time to complete.
- Teachers provide timely feedback, orally or in writing, that provides specific information about students' learning and growth.
- Teachers create clear homework guidelines, maintaining an effective system for communicating to parents and students.
- Teachers coordinate with colleagues to ensure that homework is appropriately paced and all students have access to research and resource materials.

The Students Role

- Students are committed to frequent practice of new and developing skills.
- Students are responsible in ensuring that they understand why homework was assigned and how to do it before leaving class.
- Complete and submit homework assignments by the due date.
- If absent, student is responsible for all schoolwork missed. It is his/her responsibility to find out what assignments or tests were missed. Teacher will assign time allowed for make-up work.
- Complete all assignments honestly in accordance with the teacher's directions.
- Commit to doing their best work on all assignments.

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The Parents Role

- Parents coach and support, providing opportunities for your children to be successful, but do not do the assignment.
- Encourage students to communicate with the teacher about homework parameters and to ask their teacher(s) clarifying questions concerning their homework.
- Communicate with the teacher(s) when necessary. Students need to be in charge of their own learning, but we are all invested in ensuring students are successful.
- Promote honesty and integrity in homework completion. (Discourage cheating, plagiarism, and having too much input of others in the completion of homework.)

Homework Guidelines

Students might not bring homework home every day. However, regular homework, especially for students in fourth grade and up, has been proven to support academic success. The time spans in the chart below are guidelines, there may be times when students have no homework, or have slightly more.

Daily Independent Reading: Daily Independent Reading is time spent with books children want to read and enjoy. Research supports that daily independent reading in home AND in school significantly effects reading success and increases their motivation and interest to read.

Daily Homework Assignment Guidelines by Grade Levels:

Grade Level	Daily Time for Homework
Grades K-1	0-10 minutes (Plus 15-20 minutes of reading to and with your child.)
Grades 2-3	0-30 minutes (Plus 20 minutes of reading to and with your child.)
Grades 4-5	0-50 minutes (Plus 30 minutes of daily independent reading.)
Grades 6	0-60 minutes (Plus 30 minutes of daily independent reading.)

If you find that your child is spending more than this suggested time on a regular basis, talk about it with your child. Please provide helpful feedback to your child's teacher periodically, so that we can ensure that our Homework Policy is meeting the needs of our learners.

Late Work:

Students are expected to complete homework on time and turn it in by the due date. Late work is subject to reduced points. Missing and/or incomplete work is subject to no credit. Missing assignments in bulk at the end of a quarter will not be accepted.