

## **CASSIDY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY**

### **A. PURPOSE**

This policy on assignment of homework to students has been developed to establish responsibilities and guidelines for minimum standards for the assignment, evaluation, and monitoring of homework assignments.

### **B. SCOPE**

This policy is intended to guide teachers for all students in Cassidy School. It does not apply to students receiving homebound instruction or whose instructional program is governed by individualized education plans when those plans exclude the prospect of homework.

### **C. DEFINITION**

Homework is defined as assignments to be completed outside the classroom to reinforce class instruction, increase understanding and retention, transfer and extend classroom instruction, prepare for class discussion, and provide curriculum enrichment opportunities.

### **D. COMMITMENT**

The development of study skills must be an integral part of Cassidy School's educational policies. Cassidy School strongly supports the philosophy that homework is a necessary adjunct to school life, which serves different purposes according to the student's grade level. The assignment of academically appropriate homework is an extension of classroom instruction and supports the teacher's instructional objectives. It is Cassidy School's policy that homework will be assigned to students in Cassidy School in accordance with their individual needs and abilities and in support of the learning objectives of the particular curricular area.

It should be recognized that not all homework needs to take the form of written assignments. Some homework, especially in the primary program, should involve students in reading to their parents and vice versa or in taking part in cultural and creative activities.

### **E. POLICY**

1. It is the policy of Cassidy School that teachers will assign homework at teacher discretion on a regular basis to all students capable of completing assignments.

### Policy 3.7.3

2. The appropriate ranges of hours per week of homework to be assigned are as follows:

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Hours/Week</u>
Primary	1-3 hours
Intermediate	3-6 hours

3. Homework assignments are reinforcements for classroom curricular areas and are assigned to support student learning as appropriate for the ability of the individual student.

4. Assigned homework will reinforce instruction accomplished in class; it will not introduce new or unfamiliar concepts or skills.

5. Homework will be accomplished outside classroom instructional time.

6. Consideration should be given to school events when assigning homework.

7. The principal of Cassidy School shall ensure that the Homework Policy is distributed to and understood by all teachers, parents, and students.

8. Teachers shall evaluate and return homework assignments to students in a timely manner and shall periodically inform students and their parents of the student's academic progress and mastery of learning objectives.

9. Intermediate teachers shall decide the degree to which homework affects the determination of a student's grade. Primary teachers will be encouraged to hold students accountable for their homework assignments.

10. Teachers shall provide clear, concise directions for the completion of homework assignments.

11. No homework will be given to students taking the state assessment during the testing window.

### **F. PARENTAL SUPPORT**

Parents are urged to actively involve themselves with their children's school work. Homework assignments offer opportunity for valuable interaction between parent and child in support of learning. Parents can help in the following ways:

1. Showing interest in the schoolwork their children bring home.

### Policy 3.7.3

2. Providing a suitable place to study, free from disturbances.
3. Supplying needed materials for completing homework.
4. Offering to clarify instructions and answer questions. However, parents are encouraged not to do the homework for their child.
5. Checking to see that work is complete.
6. Encouraging their children to do their best work and praising a job well done.
7. Assisting in use of time and monitoring the amount and type of extra curricular or leisure activities their children are involved in such as sports, music lessons, or television.
8. Staying in close communication with teachers.
9. Rewarding their children in appropriate ways for completed work.

### **G. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Students are responsible for completing their homework and, with support from their parents, may want to follow some of the following practical suggestions:

1. Write down assignments and due dates, ask questions, and select necessary books and supplies before leaving school.
2. Keep homework in the same place at home each day and take books and materials directly to this study area.
3. Plan the best time to complete work.
4. Complete work so that it is neat and legible.
5. Complete and return work on time.

### **H. TEACHER REPSONSIBILITIES**

Teachers will review all homework assignments with the students and provide feedback.

3/19/96

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