

Homework Policies

Purpose of Homework

Homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline, and life-long learning habits. It is the intention of the OCS faculty to give relevant, challenging, and meaningful homework assignments that will reinforce classroom learning objectives. Homework should provide students with the opportunity to apply information they have learned, complete unfinished class assignments, and develop independence. The following reasons are why homework is assigned:

1. For drill: We believe that most students require solid drilling to master material essential to their educational progress. (Spelling, multiplication tables, etc.)
2. For practice: After classroom explanation, homework may be assigned to reinforce the material that was presented.
3. For remedial activity: As instruction progresses, various weak points in the student's grasp of a subject become evident. Homework is often given to overcome such difficulties.
4. For preview: Reading homework is often assigned to prepare the student for subsequent lessons.
5. For special projects: Book reports, compositions, special research assignments, and study for exams are some of the activities that are frequently given as homework.

Responsibilities

1. Staff:
 - Assign relevant, challenging, and meaningful homework that reinforces classroom learning.
 - Give clear instructions, and make sure students understand the purpose.
 - Give feedback and correct homework.
 - Communicate with other teachers.
 - Involve parents, and contact them if a pattern of late or incomplete homework develops.
2. Parents:
 - Set a regular, uninterrupted study time each day.
 - Establish a quiet, well-lit study area.
 - Monitor student's organization and daily list of assignments.
 - Be supportive and encouraging when the student gets difficult assignments.
 - Contact the teacher to stay well informed about the student's progress.
3. Students:
 - Write down assignments in the Student Planner.
 - Be sure all assignments are clear—don't be afraid to ask questions if needed.
 - Set aside a regular time for studying.
 - Use a quiet, well-lit study area.
 - Work on homework independently as much as possible.
 - Produce quality work.
 - Make sure assignments are done according to the instructions.
 - Make sure assignments are completed and turned in on time.

Late Work Policies

1. Late Assignment With No Absence Involved

- Students are expected to turn work in on time. Students who turn in late assignments will receive any of the following based upon individual teacher discretion or grade level policy:
 - Partial credit, but no penalty greater than the unexcused absence policy.
 - Communication with parents with possible conference
 - After school detention
 - Possible loss of participation in extracurricular activities
2. Make-Up Work Due To Excused Absences, Including Pre-Arranged Family Vacations
- For an excused absence or prearranged family vacation that covers fewer than 3 consecutive school days, completed make-up work (including tests and quizzes) is due no later than 2 attended school days after the student returns to class.
 - If the absence or vacation covers 3 or more consecutive school days, the make-up work (including tests and quizzes) is due to the instructor no later than 5 attended school days after the student returns to class.
 - Any work (including tests and quizzes) submitted later than 5 school days after the student returns to class will fall under the late assignment policy.
 - Previously announced projects, assignments, or tests/quizzes must be turned in or taken on the day of the student's return to school. If extenuating circumstances exist, the teacher may grant additional make-up time.
3. Make-Up Work Due To Unexcused Absences
- Work turned in immediately upon return to class will receive a 20% reduction. This includes missed tests and quizzes, which must be taken the day of return to class.
 - Work turned in the day after the return to class will receive a 50% grade reduction.
 - Work turned in 3 days or later after the return to class will receive no credit.
 - Communication with parents, possible conference.
 - Possible loss of participation in extra-curricular activities.