



Homework Policy

Homework is:

- Homework compliments class work. Its intention is to help students to process, deepen and apply what they have learned in class and to prepare them for the following class period.
- Homework can be the continuation of a class assignment, if useful, for example, in art.
- Homework is meant for differentiated, functional and efficient practice.
- Homework reinforces the students' learning process and gives them a benefit.
- Homework must be age appropriate and designed in such a way that students can do it without help.
- Homework is an integral part of class instruction. The time students need for homework must be appropriate.

Homework may not:

- Homework should not, as a rule, cover material that was excluded in class nor be used for catching up or staying on schedule.
- Homework may not be used as punishment for misbehavior, for example for disturbing class and, should not be assigned for the wrong purpose.
- Homework may not be designed without connection to the material covered before and after the class at which the homework was given.
- Homework may not be so time intensive that the students' free time is unduly restricted. Their schedule is already taken up by class and other mandatory school events.

Principles for Teachers

- We give homework that grows out of our instruction and leads back to it.
- We design homework that students can do unassisted.
- We acknowledge homework. Lengthy written homework deserves special recognition.
- Each teacher logs homework assignments in the class book for the day on which it is due. This procedure gives an overview of the students' work load and allows for adjustments and cooperation among teachers.
- We allow sufficient time for lengthy homework and keep in mind the load and extent of homework given by other teachers of the same class.

- Homework should be completed by lower school students in approx. 30 minutes and in middle and high school, approx. 1 – 2 hours (according to the Thuringia School Rules 57). Of course, students may decide on their own how much time they need to prepare for exams or presentations.
- Homework is an integral part of the students' grades and is factored in among "other achievements".
- The following guidelines apply for homework which has not been handed in:
 - Homework that was not handed in is graded as "insufficient" (0 points or grade 6) if the homework of (at least some) other students in the same group is graded. As an exception, a written excuse may be accepted.
 - The (subject) teacher informs the parents when their child has not handed in homework three times.
 - A student who has forgotten his homework must hand it in at the beginning of the next period without being prompted. If not, the missing homework may be graded as "insufficient".
- If a student is sick or absent, he/she will make-up the homework assignment based on the instructions of the teacher.
- During the times of the school year when students have many exams, we avoid assigning lengthy homework, papers, and presentations.
- If possible, we do not give homework during vacation and on Friday for Monday, except in subjects that are only taught on Mondays and Fridays. Other exceptions are reading assignments in German and other languages, and if the subject is taught only once a week.
- If a student is sick, he/she will ask a fellow student for the handouts during class.
- We expect our students to do homework regularly, completely, unassisted, and with proper form.