

HOME LEARNING POLICY

1.0 Objectives

At GIIS Dubai, we recognize and value the contribution that learning in the home environment can make to children's education. This policy sets out the purpose of and benefits of home learning, and the guidelines we follow when setting home learning activities for our children. We value the enthusiastic and supportive guidance parents give to their children at home and we want to assist with this to ensure all children meet their potential.

2.0 Scope

This process applies to GIIS Dubai.

3.0 Policies

INTENT - To provide students, teachers and parent's broad guidelines on administration of student home learning related to scholastic and co-scholastic areas. Home learning is a part of the continuous learning process and in GIIS where we regard home learning as important for the following reasons:

- It offers pupils the opportunity to revisit, revise and consolidate skills learned in class.
- It provides pupils an opportunity for independent learning and study

RESPONSIBILITY & AUTHORITY

Responsibilities of Parents

- Provide a study area that is quiet, comfortable and free from disturbances
- Turn off the television/ radio/ or any other gadgets which causes distraction to the child until the home learning is finished.
- Set rules (when, where, how) for your child.
- Make available resource materials such as reference books, magazines, newspapers, personal computer or a tablet with internet connectivity.
- Assist the student with drill, such as learning how to spell. Check the finished product for neatness and legibility. Consider home learning as non-negotiable (extracurricular activities should not interfere with timely completion of home learning).
- Encourage reading for pleasure
- Show confidence in your child's ability; never do your child's home learning for him/her

- Hold your child accountable for getting home learning to and from school
- Let the teacher know if your child is having trouble with the home learning.

Responsibilities of Students

- Know the home learning assignments before leaving school
- Take home learning assignments and all necessary supplies home
- Jot down a home learning buddy's phone number to use if a day is missed or if there are questions.
- Spend the necessary time on home learning each evening.
- Know that the best effort is demonstrating pride in home learning.
- Seek help from parents only when needed.
- Submit finished home learning to the teacher, neatly done and on time.

Responsibilities of Teachers:

- Ensure home learning assignments are assigned with clear expectations.
- Plan home learning that is meaningful and relates to specific instructional purposes.
- Make home learning as interesting as possible.
- Plan home learning tasks that are appropriate to student's ability levels
- Give parents specific suggestions on how to help their children with home learning.
- Give children a sufficient amount of home learning only so as to meet the time guidelines for your grade
- Check home learning daily or as often as appropriate (for example, a long-term project would be checked on or around its due date)
- Provide students with feedback on their progress, or with comments that are specific to the assignments. This can occur as direct written comments on the assignments, as part of in-class discussions or through connections made with in-class assignments

Goals for Home Learning

- To reinforce classroom instruction
- To develop good work habits, responsibility, self-direction, and Organisational skills
- To extend and enrich curriculum
- To assess independent work
- To provide parents with an opportunity to become informed of and involved in the students learning

Time Allotments

Time allotted to homework will increase gradually from Grade to Grade.

The guidelines remain flexible.

Individual differences among children may be taken into consideration by parents and teachers. Some of their tasks may be designed to consolidate the child's classroom learning experiences, while other tasks will encourage the child to work independently taking their own initiative. Reading practice is a priority for all students.

The approximate time required for home learning (written) varies by class as follows:

Grades 1 & 2: 30 min – 60 min, Grades 3 to 5: 90 min approximately, Grades 6 -8: 2 hrs and Grades 9 and above: 2 – 3 hrs.

The mentioned time slots are only guidelines. Some children may complete their work in less time. However, if your child is taking more than the mentioned time, please feel free to discuss the same with the class teacher.

Home learning is assigned Monday to Friday however, pupils may be asked to complete unfinished work during the weekends. Students are encouraged to read for pleasure every day and parents are encouraged to read to younger children every day. Teachers can give up to 15 minutes of reading time for kindergarten and Grade 1 students which may increase up to 45 mins as the academic year progresses. Reading together with or by an adult may be included in the time.

Types of Home learning/Assignments

Home learning/assignments will be consistent in most subjects such as Mathematics, Spelling and Reading. Other assignments will vary - There are several types of home learning assignments you may expect to see over the course of the year.

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