



Parkmont Elementary School

Homework Policy

2018-19

Homework is an integral part of our educational program at Parkmont Elementary School as well as District policy. Homework is any activity assigned which is primarily accomplished outside of regular classroom time to advance student learning of the standards in the curricular areas and has a definite relationship to the student's instructional program.

Parent supported homework should help students become self-directed, self-disciplined and independent learners, this improving their immediate learning as well as their long-term academic achievement. The staff at Parkmont believes in the development of the whole child and the importance of extra-curricular activities, play and socialization.

Purpose: Homework has the following purposes:

- Provides needed practice to reinforce academic learning.
- Extends and enriches classroom instruction.
- Trains students in good study habits.
- Provides opportunity for students to take responsibility for their own learning.
- Informs and involves parents.

Content: Homework can be any of the following:

- Daily assignments not completed in class.
- Independent practice of previously taught material.
- Studying for upcoming quizzes/tests.
- Special assignments.
- Long-term assignments.

Relevant: Homework will be:

- Clear, relevant and reflective of district curriculum and state standards.
- Explained in class and may be started in class and completed out of class.
- Appropriate to the developmental levels of the students.

Assigning Homework: When assigning homework, teachers will keep in mind the following:

- Homework will be within the ability of the students to do independently or with minimal assistance.
- Homework will be reviewed and/or corrected, and feedback will be given to students in a timely manner.
- Homework can be assigned nightly, Monday through Thursday. Teachers will communicate to families when not assigning homework during special occasions, such as Back-to-School Night, Open House, and State testing.
- Homework will not be assigned over weekends, during breaks or vacations.
- Homework requests will be taken when students are absent for two or more days.
- Students with excused absences are allotted the same number of days of the absence to complete the work.
- Homework will not be assigned as punishment.

Class Homework Plans: Each teacher will create their Classroom Homework Policy which will be shared at Back-to-School Night and will include the following:

- The procedures and general timelines by which the homework will be reviewed and returned to students.
- Explanation of how they will use homework in the student's grades.
- The policy of accepting or not accepting late homework.

Review of Homework Plan: The school Leadership Team will conduct a survey of the students, parents and staff on the implementation of the Homework Policy and will share the results with the School Site Council. A copy of the results will be in the office and will be posted on the website.

Homework Assignment Times

The following is the amount of time necessary to provide adequate home study and reinforcement for the average student at each grade level. If homework consistently takes much longer, contact your child's teacher. These minutes do not include required reading students do in a book of their choice as they become life-long readers.

- Kindergarten 10-15 minutes per evening or 40-60 minutes per week.
- First/Second Grade 10-30 minutes per evening or 40-120 minutes per week.
- Third/Fourth Grade 30-45 minutes per evening or 120-180 minutes per week.
- Fifth/Sixth Grade 45-60 minutes per evening or 180-240 minutes per week.

The Board supports the development of lifelong readers so in accordance with Common Core Standards, the following are recommended guidelines in addition to regular school reading:

- By grade 4, read one-half million words annually, roughly 20-30 minutes per night.
- By grade 8, read one million words annually, roughly 20-30 minutes per night.
- By grade 12, read two million words annually, roughly 20-30 minutes per night.

Parkmont's Homework Policy can be found on Parkmont's webpage:
fremont.k12.ca.us/Parkmont