

The following parental activities are suggested for inclusion in the planning and structuring of time for homework completion. This is in addition to homework assigned by the teacher.

Kindergarten

15 minutes per day of parents reading to their child and other activities designed to reinforce the importance of teacher-assigned homework

Grades 1-3

30 minutes per day of parent-led reading, writing, and listening activities

Grades 4-6

120 minutes per week of parent involvement in home-based activities which could include visits to museums, libraries, etc., and assisting with long-term assignments such as book reports, creative writing, etc.

Grades 7 & 8

120 minutes per week of parent involvement in home-based activities which could include research papers, reading projects, and creative writing

Grades 9-12

180 minutes per week of parent involvement in home-based activities which could include cultural awareness trips, long-term projects, creative writing, reading, and discussions related to current issues or events

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Guide to the CPS Homework Policy

Responsibilities of:

- **Students**
- **Parents**
- **Teachers**
- **Principals**
- **LSCs**

Why Homework?

In accordance with the Chicago Board of Education policy (Board Report #96-0626-PO2), homework is assigned to:

- ▶ Provide reinforcement, practice, application, and enrichment of what is taught in class
- ▶ Prepare students for meaningful class participation
- ▶ Develop independent activities beyond the school hours
- ▶ Provide an opportunity for student creativity
- ▶ Foster a closer home-school connection and ongoing parental involvement in the student's education
- ▶ Provide opportunities for the student to gain experience in the utilization of community resources
- ▶ Assist students in achieving the standards for promotion

The following are suggested time allocations per day for teacher-directed homework assignments by grade level:

Kindergarten	15 minutes per day
Grades 1, 2, & 3	30 minutes per day
Grades 4, 5, & 6	45 minutes per day
Grades 7 & 8	90 minutes per day*
Grade 9	120 minutes per day*
Grade 10	130 minutes per day*
Grade 11	140 minutes per day*
Grade 12	150 minutes per day*

*Total across all subjects

Research shows that children who spend more time on homework, on average, do better in school.

Students

- ▶ Should maintain a homework assignment notebook or log listing subjects, assignment dates, due dates, and dates of assignments turned in
- ▶ Are expected to complete all homework assignments carefully and accurately and turn them in by the due date
- ▶ Should make necessary corrections on the returned homework and share the teacher's evaluation of homework assignments with their parents
- ▶ Are to seek help, as needed, from parents, teachers, and community resources

Parents

- ▶ Are to provide space and quiet time for their child to complete their homework daily
- ▶ Should monitor that homework is being done and review corrected homework returned by the teacher
- ▶ Should assist children in the use of community resources, such as libraries, that can be helpful to the student when completing homework
- ▶ Should pick up child's progress report at the end of the first and third quarters
- ▶ Should contact the teacher if there are any problems or questions about the homework

The academic benefits of homework increase as children move into the upper grades.

Teachers

- ▶ Are responsible for implementing the school homework policy in the classroom
- ▶ Are to develop a record-keeping/monitoring system and review all homework; grade all homework, noting areas for correction; and return all collected assignments promptly
- ▶ Are to plan for the coordination and scheduling of assignments with other teachers to meet the suggested homework time allocations
- ▶ Should share the homework plan with students and parents and provide instruction to help students develop appropriate study habits and strategies

Principals

- ▶ Are to develop, implement, and monitor the homework policy, in consultation with the PPLC and the Local School Council
- ▶ Should define the relationship between homework and grades and provide teacher inservices on the homework policy and its implementation
- ▶ Should distribute to parents this guide to the homework policy

Local School Councils

- ▶ Are to work with the principal and teachers on the development and implementation of the school homework policy and the expectations concerning homework

**Pick a Quiet Place for Study - Remove Distractions - Provide Supplies and Identify Resources - Provide Support and Encouragement
Encourage Good Study Habits - Review and Discuss Completed Assignments - Give Praise - Share Concerns with the Teacher**