

Homework Policy

At its simplest, homework is an opportunity for a child to follow the guidelines of the Fourth Commandment. The guidance of a Christian teacher is a blessing that should not be despised. This homework policy is meant to be a guide to assist children who are having difficulty in meeting the clear expectations of homework. Homework is assigned to enhance the learning experience and to improve retention of ideas taught. Homework may include unfinished class work, extra practice, enrichment or preparation for the next class.

So as to not exasperate a child, teachers will to their best to assign homework under these guidelines:

- 1) A variety of homework will be assigned;
- 2) Religion, memory work and oral reading will take priority for homework time;
- 3) Average daily homework time should be approximately:
 - a) grades 1-2 25 minutes per night
 - b) grades 3-4 35 minutes per night
 - c) grades 5-6 45 minutes per night
 - d) grades 7-8 60 minutes per night
- 4) Homework should attempt to build a positive bond between school and the home.

Parents need to assist the homework process by:

- 1) Expecting obedience of their children to the teacher;
- 2) Checking their child's assignment books on a regular basis;
- 3) Making homework a scheduled event at home;
- 4) Creating an organized and quiet place for homework;
- 5) Helping their child to meet all of his / her obligations;
- 6) Contacting the teacher when homework is becoming a difficulty.

Children need to:

- 1) Keep a complete record of homework in their school supplied assignment book;
- 2) Complete all homework according to the schedule of the class;
- 3) Finish all homework in a neat and orderly way;
- 4) Complete homework to the best of their God-given ability as we learn to do all to the glory of God;
- 5) Contact the teacher the night before or the morning of school – before school starts – with questions on work that is not understood.

All late work will need to be completed properly and with enough quality to earn a passing grade. In the 3rd-8th grade level, this grade will then be averaged with the failing grade earned for turning in the work late. Papers will not be counted as late if the child or his or her parents contact the teacher before the assignment was due. Work which is asked to be redone will not be counted as late.

Chronic incomplete work will be defined as three late assignments by any child in one week. If a child has a problem with chronic late work:

- 1) The teacher will counsel the child in God's Law and Gospel;
- 2) Classroom routines (ie. seating, recess, etc.) will be adjusted to assist the child to get his / her work done;
- 3) After the third late assignment, a detention will be served for late work – 3 detentions in a quarter will warrant a suspension;
- 4) The principal, teacher, parents and child will meet following the second detention to discuss ways to help the child complete his / her work.

Some children will have late work not as much due to a behavioral or organizational problem, but because of special learning needs. The faculty and parents of all children suspended for chronic homework problems will discuss the possibility of a learning difficulty. Guidelines for dealing with children of special needs are included in the handbook and the homework policy will be revised to meet the needs of a special child.