



## **MEF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL PRIMARY HOMEWORK PROCEDURE**

### **Statement of Aims:**

- Communicate a shared understanding of the purpose of homework at MEF IS Primary
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the primary school
- Ensure teachers, students, and parents/caregivers have a clear understanding of the school's homework procedure
- Detail the school's researched-based expectations regarding the frequency of homework
- Communicate the responsibilities of teachers, students, and parents/caregivers related to homework

### **The Purpose of Homework**

The purpose of homework is to provide opportunities for students to practice and review skills, concepts, and content learned in class. Homework may also support students in developing and strengthening self-management skills: goal setting, time-management, and study skills. It also supports the school-home relationship through connecting families with the learning of their children. Homework should be limited in scope and time in order to be beneficial. Excessive amounts of homework has a negative impact on achievement and attitudes towards learning.

### **Homework should:**

- deepen, complement, and reinforce classroom learning through revising and practicing previously learned concepts and skills
- support the development of the student's independence as a learner
- further the partnership between school and home
- allow time for family, play, and cultural pursuits
- be clearly relevant, show variety, and be balance across learning areas
- be capable of being completed independently with limited resources
- receive timely feedback

### **Frequency and duration of homework**

Research emphasizes the importance of balancing homework with the developmental needs of young learners to have a balanced lifestyle that includes plenty of time for family and play. Excessive amounts of homework has a negative impact on achievement and attitudes towards learning. Regular, limited levels of homework may reinforce learning and increase student self-management skills.

The following is a research-based breakdown of the maximum daily time that should be spent on homework:

- Kindergarten            10 minutes
- Grade 1 - 2            10-20 minutes
- Grade 3 - 4            30-40 minutes
- Grade 4 - 5            40-50 minutes

### **Responsibilities of parents and caregivers**

- Ensure students have a quiet, clean, and organized study area to complete homework
- Ensure a balance between homework and family, play, and recreational activities
- Guide students with time management
- Encourage children to complete and submit their homework on time and praising them
- Allow students to complete homework independently first, offering support when needed
- Support this school in helping students understand the value of homework as a tool for learning
- Read to and talk to children about their learning experiences at school
- Communicate with teachers if homework expectations become unmanageable or overly challenging.
- Familiarize themselves with and uphold the school's homework policy.

### **Responsibilities of teachers**

- Implement and adhere to the school's homework policy consistently.
- Make sure that the homework policy is understood by parents/caregivers.
- Clearly outline homework expectations at the start of the academic year.
- Assign homework that students can complete independently and is suited to their learning levels.
- Allocate adequate time for students to complete homework assignments.
- Be approachable for students experiencing difficulties with homework.
- Assist students in developing effective organizational and time-management skills.
- Provide timely and helpful feedback on completed homework.
- Consider individual circumstances that may affect a student's ability to complete homework.
- Ensure homework is varied, meaningful, and correlates directly with classroom learning.

### **Responsibilities of Students**

- Complete all homework assignments punctually and to the best of their ability.
- Take responsibility for caring for and organizing their school materials and homework documents.
- Communicate openly with teachers about any challenges faced in completing homework assignments.

Document History		
Date	Details	Responsible
August 2018	Policy created	Figen Sonmez
May 2022	Policy updated	Brett Warfield