

## Homework Guidelines

At Woodbury Leadership Academy, we believe parent involvement, communication and encouragement are vital for student success. Homework is part of our general academic program. Our homework guidelines were created based on solid-research, including government guidelines. The main focus areas of homework are on literacy and numeracy. Homework may include formal, traditional written exercises, joint activities with family, reading, listening to others read, learning spellings, practicing pronunciation, working with numbers, finding information and preparing oral presentations.

### Homework Advantages:

1. It promotes good study habits.
2. It fosters positive attitudes towards school.
3. It makes it clear to students that learning can also take place outside school.

### Homework Purpose:

1. Progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
2. Improvement of student's learning experience.
3. Strengthening of the relationship between parents and school.
4. Increased collaboration between parent and child with regard to the student's learning.
5. Opportunity to talk to an interested adult about what they are learning.
6. Practice in key skills in a supporting environment.
7. Development of long-term strategies for future needs.
8. Students being prepared for secondary school.

Homework should be reasonable for students and families. It should also be manageable for teachers. Below you will find guidelines on the amount of time your child(ren) could be spending on homework each school night.

Grade	Average Time
K	10 minutes
1	20 minutes
2	30 minutes
3	40 minutes
4-5	50 minutes
6-8	1-1.5 hours

### 10 Pieces of Advice for Parents:

1. Use praise and encouragement to boost child's confidence
2. Read to and with your child as much as possible
3. Encourage your child to observe and talk about their surroundings
4. Visit local library
5. Visit museums and places your child might find interesting
6. Watch television with your child and talk about it afterwards
7. Set aside a regular time for homework
8. Give your child space and peace to do their work
9. Discuss homework, including feedback
10. Point out the interesting and enjoyable aspects of homework

We recommend having a quiet space for completing homework. "A recent study has found that combining television and homework leads to an overload of information that exceeds attention capacity" (Kidwell, 2004).

## Homework Guidelines

Elementary School, Grades K-5

### Here are some of the reasons why we think homework is important:

- It gives you responsibility and helps you to learn on your own.
- It helps your parents get to know what you are doing in school. Then, they can help in all sorts of other ways, like taking you to visit places.
- It gives you a chance to do things at home which are difficult at school.
- It means you can be helped on your own with things you find hard.
- You can practice skills and get better at them.

### What sort of homework will you get?

- Reading to others or by yourself
- Answering questions about what you read
- Math practice
- Spelling practice
- Grammar and language use practice
- At times, you may be requested to finish classwork

### How long will it take to do your homework each school night?

Grade	Average Time
K	10 minutes
1	20 minutes
2	30 minutes
3	40 minutes
4-5	50 minutes

You should write your homework down in a regular spot. (i.e. agenda, folder, homework sheet, etc.)

**Homework Guidelines**

Middle School, Grades 6-8

**The Purpose of Homework:**

- To encourage development of skills, confidence and motivation needed to study effectively on your own. This is vital, given the future importance of lifelong learning and adaptability.
- Consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding developed at school.
- Extending school learning, for example through additional reading.
- Sustaining the involvements of parents in management of your learning and keeping them informed about the work you’re completing.
- Managing particular demands.

**The Responsibilities as a Student:**

- Always write down your homework.
- Complete homework to the best of your ability within the appropriate length of time.
- Submit homework at the time requested.

It is recommended that you get into the habit of doing homework on the night it is assigned and designating a regular homework time.

**How long will it take to complete homework each school night?**

Grade	Average Time
6-8	1-1.5 hours

Subject	Average Time
Math	22 minutes
Language Arts	23 minutes
Social Studies	23 minutes
Science	22 minutes