



HOMEWORK POLICY

SECTION 1. BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY

MISSION

The mission of Ben Franklin Academy is to develop young adults with character like America's founding Renaissance man, Benjamin Franklin: well-read, scientifically curious, and civically engaged.

VISION

Our students will excel academically through a challenging, sequenced curriculum that emphasizes math, science, and literacy. We will be a data driven institution, focusing on individual students. Our students, teachers, parents, staff, and leaders will be held accountable for the success of our school. Finally, we recognize that an education is incomplete without fostering the arts, sports, nature, and character.

PURPOSE

Ben Franklin Academy will implement an academically rigorous curriculum in a balanced fashion. Homework is an integral part of the academic program of the school. This document seeks to define the balance between these oft-competing policies.

SECTION 2. HOMEWORK

Homework builds responsibility, self-discipline, and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of the Academy staff to assign relevant, challenging, and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom-learning objectives. Homework should provide students with the opportunity to apply information they have learned, complete unfinished class assignments, and develop independence. Homework grades may be modified based on students' individual needs (i.e. IEP, 504 Plans).

Parents may need to assist their children with homework assignments from time to time. It is important for parents to assist in drill assignments and oral reading at home. In conjunction with teachers and staff, the responsibility for good academic behavior rests on the individual student and his/her parents. It is imperative that parents assist the school in promoting, developing, and maintaining that good academic behavior.

Parents should supervise homework by providing a consistent place and time for completion, answer questions the student asks, and review the homework for accuracy and completeness. Students are expected to perform the work independently, but also should ask questions if clarification is needed.

Projects relating to subjects introduced in the classroom are occasionally assigned to allow the student to further investigate a specific topic. Parents and students are encouraged to work

together to create presentations of this kind. While skills such as time management and research planning are introduced in class, parents should expect to help the child implement these goals.

TIME

Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills, and selected course load. If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time doing homework, you should contact your child's teachers. Our basic expectation for homework is as follows:

K-1st Grade 10 minutes every night

2nd-3rd Grade 20-30 minutes every night

4th-5th Grade 40-50 minutes every night

6th-8th Grade 60-70 minutes every night

This does not include reading whether assigned or personal.

LATE WORK

The Academy expects students will complete all homework and projects in a timely manner. Refer to the Grading Policy for information on how late work will be graded.

ABSENCES

Students are expected to complete their assigned homework whether they attended class or not. Students shall turn in homework within one day after they return to school from an absence. For example, if a student is out of school on Monday and Tuesday, all homework for Monday and Tuesday will be due on Thursday.

MAJOR PROJECTS

Work on major projects may exceed the basic expectations mentioned above.

POLICY HISTORY:

Original: approved by the board 8/23/11