

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

#### CITY OF CHICAGO

Richard M. Daley  
*Mayor*

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Michael W. Scott  
*President*  
Clare Muñana  
*Vice President*

*Members:*  
Norman R. Bobins  
Tariq Butt, M.D.  
Alberto A. Carrero, Jr.  
Roxanne Ward  
Rufus Williams

#### CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Arne Duncan  
*Chief Executive Officer*

Barbara Eason-Watkins, Ed.D.  
*Chief Education Officer*

Domingo J. Trujillo  
*Chief Instruction Officer*



CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# 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**