

NATHAN HALE MIDDLE SCHOOL HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

IMPORTANCE OF HOMEWORK

Homework contributes towards building responsibility self-discipline and life-long learning habits. It is the intention of the Nathan Hale Middle School 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 assignments include:

- Practice exercises to follow classroom instruction
- Preview assignments to prepare for subsequent lessons
- Extension assignments to transfer new skills or concepts to new situations
- Creative activities/projects that integrate many skills toward the creation of a final product

RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS

- Write down all assignments in your assignment notebook.
- Ask the teacher questions if any directions are not understood.
- Turn in homework on the due date.
- Set aside a regular time for studying and completing assignments.
- Find a quiet, well-lit study area.
- Work on homework independently, so that it reflects your abilities.
- Produce quality work.
- If you are absent, ask your teacher about assignments you may have missed.
- For pre-planned absences (family vacations, sports, school activities) see your teacher prior to the absence for assignments so that work is completed upon your return.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS

- Regularly check your student's assignment notebook.
- Set up a comfortable location for doing homework and studying.
- Make sure your student has the necessary supplies.
- Show interest in your student's school work and discuss with them what they are learning.
- Be supportive if your student gets frustrated with difficult assignments.
- Regularly check your student's academic progress on the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TEACHER

- Give clear instructions and make sure the students understand the purpose of the assignment.
- Ensure that the students have the skills to complete the assignment.
- Provide specific written explanations and directions for long-term assignments/projects so that requirements and expectations are clearly understood by the students and their parents.
- Have students write down all assignments in their assignment notebook.
- Educate students as to their responsibilities stated in the homework guidelines.
- Graded homework will be returned to students in a timely manner.
- Use results of homework to plan future instruction.
- Include homework as part of the student's overall grade.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

- Communicate the school's homework guidelines to parents.
- Monitor the implementation of the homework guidelines.
- Maintain open communication between teacher, students, and parents.

FREQUENCY AND QUANTITY OF HOMEWORK

The amount of homework assigned will vary depending on the subject matter. The amount of time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills and selected course load.

LATE WORK POLICY

- Assignments turned in complete, according to expectations and on time will be eligible for full credit.
- Students will receive 75% credit for work that is turned in **one day** after the original due date.
- Students will receive 50% credit for work that is turned in **two days** after the original due date.
- If the work is not turned in **after the second day**, it will be recorded as a **missing assignment (0%)** in the teacher's gradebook.
- Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the teacher for emergencies, etc.

ABSENT POLICY

Students who miss homework because of an absence will receive the opportunity to make up missed work. Students are given one calendar day to turn in missed assignments for each day absent. It is the student's responsibility to get work missed due to illness or absence.

HOMEWORK ON SCHOOL WEBSITE

Daily homework will be posted on the school website before the end of each school day. Students and parents can check daily to clarify and stay current on the assigned work in each class.