



Homework Policy and Procedures (K-12)

This policy addresses issues in relation to:
Safe and Supportive Environment – Student Welfare 3.6.2

Introduction

Al-Faisal College is committed to maximising student learning and recognises the significant contribution homework can make to the personal, social and academic success of the individual child. Homework consolidates student learning and provides an opportunity for parents to support the learning of their child in a purposeful and supportive atmosphere of the home.

At Al-Faisal College we believe that the learning process is a partnership between school and home. Homework encourages the development of a positive relationship between student, school and home.

Definition

Homework is defined as any task set by the school intended for students to carry out during *non-school* hours. It is designed to meet specific learning goals, based on concepts **already discussed or taught in class**.

Homework consists of tasks that revise work, or are related to topics, units or themes that are currently being taught at school. The revision of facts or patterns, information and ideas suited to the students' year group may also be a component of homework. Reading and writing is an essential component for all grades across the school.

Rationale

At Al-Faisal College, homework is given to provide students with opportunities to consolidate their learning and pattern behaviour for lifelong learning beyond the classroom. Homework encourages students to work independently and take responsibility for their own learning.

At Al-Faisal College we plan and implement our teaching based on the requirements outlined by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) and current research, to provide the highest standard of education.

Research has shown that homework is a positive component of the learning process and impacts greatly on the development of learning habits.

- Through homework, students can learn to use resources effectively and develop good study habits. (Blazer, 2009).
- Homework improves students' time management and organisational skills (Blazer, 2009; Dixon, 2007)
- Fosters a sense of personal responsibility and self-discipline (Blazer, 2009; Cooper, 1989; Dixon, 2007)

The nature and amount of homework will vary according to:



- Age
- Learning stage of the students
- The subject area and/or topic being studied
- The time of year
- The ability of the students

As a general guide, after-school or evening homework should involve approximately:

- 30 minutes for students K-2
 - 30 – 60 minutes for students Years 3-6
 - 60 – 120 minutes Years 7 – 10
 - 90 – 180 minutes Years 11-12
- This will include homework set by the classroom teacher, in addition to homework set by Islamic studies and Arabic teachers.

Students will complete homework at different paces, depending on ability and understanding.

Responsibility of Teachers

Teachers can help students establish a routine of regular independent study by:

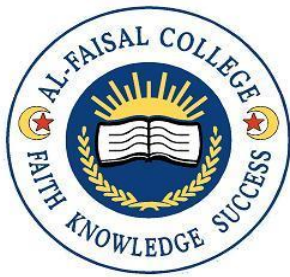
- Setting homework according to the Al-Faisal College Homework Policy.
- Setting regular homework to help students establish a home study routine.
- Clearly communicating the purpose, benefits and expectations of all homework tasks.
- Giving a clear explanation to students of homework requirements and ensuring the students understand instructions.
- Setting tasks that relate to class work and is appropriate to students learning needs and Stage level.
- Checking and correcting homework as set and giving timely and meaningful feedback to students.
- Communicating via School Diary to parents when necessary, if homework is not completed or below set expectations.
- Give advice on organisation of time, study and homework habits.

Responsibility of Students

Students can take responsibility of their own learning by:

- Being aware of the Al-Faisal College homework policy.
- Accepting responsibility for completion of set homework within set time frames.
- Listening to teacher instructions in regards to homework expectations.
- Completing homework as per teacher instructions.
- Completing homework to the best of their ability.
- Informing **teachers** immediately when difficulties arise.
- Taking note of teacher feedback and comments.
- Ensuring that homework is recorded into their school diary as per teacher instructions and grade requirements.

Responsibility of Parents



Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

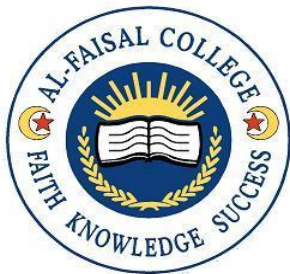
- Encouraging them to take responsibility for their own learning and assisting with time organisation.
- Being **positive** about homework and encouraging maximum independence.
- Guiding them, only when and if needed or directing them to relevant resources.
- Assisting with development of study habits by ensuring that they have a regular homework/study pattern, or study timetable.
- Providing a quiet and appropriate study area.
- Encouraging them to ensure that all school work, books and/or equipment are organised for the following school day.
- Contacting the **class teacher** as the first point of call, if there are any concerns or difficulties with regard to homework completion or tasks.
- Ensuring that the school diary is completed by the child, as per teacher / grade expectations.
- Using the student diary as a means of communication with the teacher.

K - 6 Consequences

The following steps are to be followed when a student does **not submit homework** or homework is **not completed to the expected standard**:

1. On the **first occasion**, class teacher will **speak to any student** who has not submitted homework by the due date or completed homework to the desired standard and ask for an explanation. This is noted in the student's diary as a 'friendly reminder' (in Kindergarten and Year 1, this is a verbal reminder and the class teacher keeps a record of this).
2. On the **second occasion**, the class teacher will give a verbal warning to the student and alert his/her parents of the issue by writing a message in the school diary (in Kindergarten and Year 1, parents will be contacted).
3. On **third and subsequent occasions**, if homework is not submitted or completed to an acceptable standard, the student will remain in class during lunch (maximum of one half of lunch only) to complete unfinished work. This is recorded in the school diary (in Kindergarten and Year 1, parents will be contacted).
4. If homework is again not submitted or not completed to expected standard, the teacher **arranges a meeting with the parent and student** to discuss the importance of homework and the K-12 Homework Policy.

Years 7 - 12 Consequences



The following steps are to be followed when a student does **not submit homework** or homework is **not completed to the expected standard**:

1. If a student **fails to comply with homework** commitments, a comment is written in the Student Diary.
2. Students who **repeatedly fail to comply with homework** commitments will be referred to the faculty coordinator/Head of Studies.
3. If it **occurs regularly**, parents will be notified.
4. If the student **shows no willingness to comply**, then a Monitoring Card will be used and is monitored by the Faculty Coordinator.
5. If the student **still shows no willingness to comply**, the Faculty Coordinator/Head of Studies and class teacher will request an interview with the parents.
6. If the student **still shows no willingness to comply**, then the Deputy Principal will request an interview with the parents.
7. **Failure to complete an acceptable level/amount of work** may jeopardise the student's ability to progress onto the next year.

References

Blazer, C. (2009). **Literature Review: Homework**. Miami: **Miami Dade County Public Schools**. Retrieved January 12, 2012, from <http://drs.dadeschools.net/LiteratureReviews/Homework.pdf>

Cooper, H. (1989). **Synthesis of Research in Homework**, Educational Leadership, 47, 3, 85-91

Dixon, N., Parliamentary Library. (2007). **Homework for the 21st century**. Brisbane: Research Publications and Resources Section Queensland Parliamentary Library.

Date of Policy:
January 2018

Proposed review date of
policy:
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*or earlier where amendments in
legislation require immediate policy
reviews*