

## **Smart Vision School Homework Policy**

### **General Guidelines for Homework**

Homework can be in the form of practice tasks that reinforce newly acquired skills; students review and practise what they have learned. These tasks may be differentiated for students working at different levels.

Homework can be in the form of preparation inquiry tasks, which help students get ready for learning activities that will take place in class; students may be asked to read something, or to carry out some form of research, investigation or fact finding. In this case, homework will not be related to something that the students have learnt, it will be preparing them for something they will learn. Such types of homework encourage independent learning and parents are encouraged to support their children with such activities.

Homework can be in the form of extension tasks, which are long-term projects that parallel class work. Students must apply previous learning to complete these tasks, which include projects and longer pieces of writing.

Homework can be in the form of revision of previously learned content, for an assessment.

Homework is not and should not be viewed as a burden; students should never be set homework that is above their frustration level. However, it is our expectation at SVS that homework will extend a child to seek out answers and gather information on topics and ideas new to them. Homework should never stop a child from spending time on their hobbies and other activities that they take pleasure in. We believe that a child can function best when s/he has a healthy balance between school work and whatever activities the child enjoys doing in their free time. Students have a right to free time.

Homework should not be a cause of stress neither for the student nor his/her parents. Therefore, when homework proves too challenging or too difficult, parents are asked to send a note to school about the matter and the child can be directed to leave the homework unfinished. Parents are advised to use discretion in this, however, as repeated failure to submit homework can impact students' learning negatively.

### **The Communication Book**

Our students have a Communication Book that they need to have with them at all times. Parents are kindly asked to write their comments about homework in the books and to check it and sign them on a DAILY basis. Our teachers will indicate whether or not homework has been completed in the communication book.

### **Teacher Responsibilities**

- Teachers are expected to follow the guideline set by SVS for homework and ensure that the weekly allocations below are kept to.
- Teachers cannot set homework that is markedly above the child's level in any given subject. Preparation tasks are encouraged but students need to be given clear instructions and should be aware of teachers' aims for the tasks.
- Teachers need to ensure that practice and consolidation homework is differentiated and level- appropriate.
- Teachers need to ensure that all homework is uploaded to the Team Drive relevant folder by Wednesday Evening weekly for the following week, including any attachments.
- Teachers need to follow through with appropriate sanctions and rewards when homework is or is not completed.
- Teachers need to communicate their concerns with regard to students' repeated failures to hand in homework to the Sectional Lead.
- Teachers need to mark and/or give feedback on homework in a timely fashion.

## **Students Responsibilities**

- Students need to have their communication books with them at school on a daily basis.
- Students need to complete all homework to the best of their ability and in a timely fashion.
- Students need to ensure that homework requirements are clear to them by asking their teachers.
- Students should time themselves when doing homework and need to inform their teacher when homework takes longer than the allocated time to finish.
- Students need to view homework as a tool of learning and not as a chore.
- Students need to ensure that their work is presented neatly.

## **Parent Responsibilities**

- Parents need to check students' communication books and the e-communicator app and need to be familiar with this policy and allocated homework times.
- Parents can give support and guidance but cannot do homework for their children.
- Parents need to check and sign, when appropriate, the communication book on a daily basis.
- Parents need to support SVS in its mission to ensure that students are reading in either/both Arabic and English on a daily basis.
- Parents can send comments about homework through the students' communication books.
- Parents need to use discretion and stop their children from completing a piece of homework that is too difficult or too stressful.

## **Weekly Homework Allocation**

### **FS1**

- Students in FS1 will not have set homework. However, we recommend parents read a story daily in either English or their home language.

### **FS2**

- 10 minutes daily reading, when children are deemed ready by the class teacher.

### **PY1 & PY2**

- Weekly differentiated spelling Arabic and English
- 10 minutes daily reading in both Arabic and English
- Other activities will build over the year to include Mathematics, Inquiry and Arabic tasks. (It must be noted that some children may not be ready to perform these tasks early on and would, therefore, require some time to catch up.)
- 2/3 Suggested practical and relevant tasks that support the learning objectives of the topic/subject/s.

### **PY3 & PY4**

- Weekly differentiated spelling Arabic and English
- Weekly differentiated mental Mathematics
- 15/20 minutes daily reading in both Arabic and English.
- There will be 3 other topic/subject tasks set for the week and these are: (The timings below are the absolute upper limit)
  - ✓ Maths for up to 20 minutes.
  - ✓ English/Writing for up to 20 minutes.



- ✓ Unit related activities for up to 20 minutes.
- ✓ Arabic for up to 20 minutes.

Muslim students are expected to learn verses from the Holy Quran in addition to Hadiths in Islamic Studies. In Music, students can be involved in project work, but they are not expected to have set homework for this subject.

### **PY6**

- Weekly differentiated spelling Arabic and English
- Weekly differentiated mental Mathematics
- 15/20 minutes daily reading in both Arabic and English.
- There will be 4 other topic/subject tasks set for the week and these are: (The timings below are the absolute upper limit)
  - ✓ Maths for up to 25 minutes.
  - ✓ English/Writing for up to 25 minutes.
  - ✓ Unit related activities for up to 25 minutes.
  - ✓ Arabic for up to 25 minutes.
  - ✓ Muslim students are expected to learn verses from the Holy Quran in addition to Hadiths in Islamic Studies. In Music, students can be involved in project work, but they are not expected to have set homework for this subject.