

## Rose Hill Homework Policy



This letter explains the homework policy at Rose Hill Elementary. Please read the policy with your child so that you understand the expectations of students and parents with regard to homework. Following these guidelines can help decrease tension associated with homework and increase your child's learning.

At Rose Hill we believe:

- The amount of homework assigned to students should be different based upon developmental needs, from primary to upper.
- The purpose of homework is to either practice a skill that has already been taught (children should have a high degree of familiarity and work independently) or to prepare or elaborate for new content (not necessary that children have in-depth understanding and they work independently).
- Children should receive feedback on homework as it positively affects their learning. This can take many forms.

For your child to be successful with homework, he/she needs:

- **A place to do homework.** If possible, your child should do homework in the same place (an uncluttered, quiet space to study without the distractions of TV or electronic devices).
- **A schedule for completing homework.** Set a homework schedule that fits with each week's particular activities.
- **Encouragement, motivation, and prompting.** Homework is designed so that the child can complete it independently. Parents should offer encouragement, support, and answer questions when needed. Your child needs to practice independently and to apply what he/she has learned in class. Have them check in with you at the beginning and end of homework time. If your child consistently cannot complete homework assignments along, please contact your child's teacher.
- **Understanding of the knowledge.** When your child is practicing a skill, ask which steps he/she finds difficult and easy and how he/she plans to improve speed and accuracy with the skill. If your child is working on a project, ask what knowledge he/she is using to complete the work. If your child consistently cannot answer these questions, please contact your child's teacher.
- **Reasonable time expectations.** If your child seems to be spending too much time each night on homework, please contact the classroom teacher. Teachers plan homework with following general times:
  - *Kindergarten* – less than 10 minutes in a meaningful activity – playing a game, doing chores, reading together, setting the table for dinner, etc.
  - *1<sup>st</sup>* – 10 minutes
  - *2<sup>nd</sup>* – 20 minutes
  - *3<sup>rd</sup>* – 30 minutes
  - *4<sup>th</sup>* – 40 minutes
  - *5<sup>th</sup>* – 50 minutes
  - *6<sup>th</sup>* – 60 minutes
  - Students improve their reading skills by continually increasing the time they independently read each day. We encourage students to read for longer and longer times throughout the year.
- **A bedtime.** When it is time to go to bed, please stop your child, even if he/she has not finished the homework. Elementary children should get about 10-11 hours of sleep a night.
- **Understanding of the expectations.** Grade level teams will have consistent homework policies that will be posted online, including opportunities for students to expand their knowledge through links to additional purposeful content learning. Families may choose to utilize that at any time during the year and during holidays.

**Grading:** Per FCPS policy, on the Progress Report, homework completion is not a part of the content area achievement levels. It is included as a portion of the Life, Work, and Citizenship Skills section.

Please review this policy as a family and sign it as a contract with each other. Then post it in your home as a reminder of how we work together to support children's learning

Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature