

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PREPARATORY ACADEMY

2019-2020 HOMEWORK POLICY

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SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Mrs. Valtena G. Brown

Deputy Superintendent/Chief Operating Officer

Vision Statement

International Studies Preparatory Academy at Gables (ISPA) will be a model for international education while creating an educational community where every student becomes responsible citizens, lifelong learners and contributors to a global society. ISPA will foster a sense of communal responsibility and solidarity through the celebration of culture, language and diversity.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to prepare the students to meet the challenges of the 21st century through the development of their academic and social development, their linguistic capacity, cultural appreciation and international and global awareness. The students of ISPA will move forward ready to meet human demands of post-secondary education taking with them the power of two languages.

To fulfill this mission, we envision ISPA as:

- Developing an exemplary center of teaching and learning of modern languages.
- Promoting international understanding.
- Connecting to the global community through its diverse student body and faculty.
- Rich in intellectual stimulation and motivation for exploration.
- Achieving high educational standards and nurturing life-long learners through the growth of their intellectual powers.
- A rigorous comprehensive curriculum which prepares young people for the next phase of their education.

Values

Excellence - We pursue the highest standards in academic achievement and organizational performance.

Equity - We foster an environment that serves all students and aspires to eliminate the achievement gap.

Student Focus - We singularly focus on meeting our students' needs and supporting them in fulfilling their potential.

Innovation - We encourage creativity and adaptability to new ideas and methods that will support and improve student learning.

Accountability - We accept responsibility for our successes and challenges and seek to transparently share our work in an ethical manner, as we strive towards continuous improvement.

ISPA's Learning Philosophy

ISPA's learning philosophy is to provide a high quality and innovative four year program of study that promotes choice, equity, diversity and academic excellence for all students.

Homework Policy

Principals are encouraged to work with teachers and parents to implement guidelines found in Homework Policy 2330. Teachers are required to provide students with make-up assignments once the absence has been excused; however, it is the responsibility of the student to request the assignments from the teacher(s).

International Studies Preparatory Academy Homework Policy

Homework is an important part of each student's academic year. The purpose of this homework plan is to guide teachers, parents and students in ensuring that homework is meaningful and supports the learning experience for all students.

Purpose of Homework:

The purpose for assigning homework is to give students the opportunity to extend lessons, practice skills, engage in critical thinking and develop good work habits. It must be:

- Connected to grade level or subject matter curriculum.
- Connected to class instruction.
- Engaging, purposeful and relevant.
- Encourage students to develop the confidence and self-discipline to work on their own.

Student's Responsibilities:

- To understand all homework assignments by listening to directions, asking questions when something is unclear, and reading directions.
- To gather all materials necessary to complete assignments before leaving the classroom.
- To complete all assignments to the best of his/her ability.
- To return materials and assignments on time.
- To make up any missed homework that the teacher requires.

Family's Responsibilities:

- To provide a routine and environment that is conducive to doing homework.
- To offer assistance to the student, but not do the actual homework.
- To check that your child has edited his/her homework for, punctuation, neatness, etc.
- To notify the teacher when homework presents a problem.
- To read school notices and respond in a timely manner.

Teacher's Responsibilities:

- To provide purposeful homework.
- To provide clear directions and instructions.
- To implement a system for routinely checking homework. Review, discuss and return, if collected, homework in a timely manner.
- To explain homework assignments to the students prior to the assignment.
- To state clearly the late work policy and enforce it.
- To communicate homework assignments in at least one of the following ways: send a packet home, write assignment on the board, require students to record it, and/or make available through emails, websites or hotlines. The use of a variety of strategies is encouraged.
- To communicate with families when students are not consistently completing assignments.
- To make special considerations when assigning work to student's that have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan.

Administrators' Responsibilities:

- Communicate the school's homework policy to parents.
- Monitor the implementation of the policy.
- Coordinate the scheduling of homework among the different subject areas.
- Serve as mediator, if needed.
- Enforce District's guidelines for homework:
 - a. High school grades daily average of 120 minutes.
 - b. AP courses are exempt from the high school daily average and require more time.

Time Allotments for Homework:

Assignments shall be designed so that the typical student can complete all homework, including time for studying and preparing for exams, in the average minutes shown below.

Student academic capability should be considered when assigning homework. One size does not fit all. The recommended minutes include assignments for all subject areas and teachers collectively per school day: High school grades daily average of 120 minutes.

In addition, students shall be encouraged to allot time to read for pleasure. Reading for pleasure and music practice are not included in the time parameters shown.

AP courses are exempt from the high school daily average and require more time.

Homework Tips for Students:

1. Record homework in the same location each day.
2. Ask clarifying questions to be sure the expectations on your assignments are clear.
3. Know, record and monitor due dates.
4. Have a quiet space with basic materials for homework completion.
5. Make homework part of your daily after school routine.
6. Take a break when tired; then resume work.
7. When you have questions about the homework, place a note next to it and ask the teacher the next day.
8. Respect that appropriate rest and physical activity are important for one's overall well-being.