

WR THOMAS MIDDLE SCHOOL

2018-2019 HOMEWORK PLAN

Purpose of Home Learning assignments:

- Prepare information or materials for future learning activities
- Practice new knowledge or skills learned
- Enrich students understanding of a topic and apply it in different ways

Home Learning Expectations:

- School Board Policy recommends a total daily average of 75 minutes of homework for students in Grades 6th, 7th and 8th. Additionally, accelerated programs such as Cambridge, Gifted, and high school-level courses may receive increased levels of homework due to rigorous course work
- Students shall be encouraged to allot time for reading for pleasure. Reading and music practice times are not included in the time parameters

Teacher Guidelines:

- Assign a minimum of two homework assignments each week in each class. These assignments should be reflected in the student's class grade (6Gx13-6A-1.23)
- Communicate with parents to inform them about homework expectations, policies, and procedures (Course Syllabus, Open House)
- Review, discuss, and return homework, if collected, in a timely manner
- Make instructions related to homework clear and provide, when necessary, a short period of supervised study or a period of questioning to ensure that students understand the assignments
- Activities and assignments that can be completed independently
- Linked to the curriculum for grade level or subject matter
- Connected to classroom instruction
- Purposeful, engaging, and relevant
- Quality over quantity
- Consider length of assignment and the amount of time that will be required to complete it
- Take into account SPED students Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan
- Take into account ELL students ESOL Level
- Take into account the materials needed for projects or homework assignments, considering affordability and technology resources
- Holidays are primarily reserved for family/vacation time

Student Guidelines:

- Complete homework as assigned and by the required due date

- Submit homework assignments which reflect careful attention to detail and quality of work
- Know, record and monitor due dates
- Make homework part of your daily after school routine
- Have a quiet place with basic materials
- Record homework assignments each day using the student agenda
- Ask clarifying questions from your teachers to ensure that expectations for assignments are clear
- Refer to teacher webpages such as Edmodo, for assignment details, deadlines, and upcoming projects, assignments, and activities

Parent Guidelines:

- Provide a quiet environment at home that is conducive to studying
- Provide the necessary materials or supplies for homework completion
- Assist your child in spending their time wisely and meeting deadlines
- Monitor student progress via Parent Portal
- Monitor student progress through the use of the student's school agenda
- Communicate with the teacher in a timely manner to collaboratively reduce/eliminate barriers to successfully completing homework and increase student academic achievement
- Refer to teacher webpages such as Edmodo, for assignment details, deadlines, and upcoming projects, assignments, and activities

Schoolwide Resources available to help parents assist students with Home Learning:

- Before and after school tutoring schedule
- Saturday Academy
- Before school computer lab in Media Center
- Dial-A-Teacher (305) 995-1600 between hours of 5:30 – 8:30 PM
- Course syllabi provided by teachers
- Open House
- New Student Orientation
- Edmodo
- KhanAcademy.org
- Miami Dade Libraries (internet access)
- Tutor.com
- Student and Parent Portal
- On-line programs
- Student agendas
- School website
- Individual teacher course webpages
- Parent/Teacher Conferences

- Parent/Student Handbook
- Weekly Parent Academy Workshops