

Sussex County Charter School for Technology

POLICY

6154 Homework Policy (2230)

The Sussex County Charter School for Technology's Board of Trustees acknowledges that homework is an important aspect of the educational experience and has educational validity as an effective and necessary extension of the instructional program of this school. Homework not only assists and improves learning; it strengthens skills and understandings gained in the classroom. Homework allows teachers and students to cover more content in depth, reinforce and supplement learning, and foster student initiative, independence, study habits and responsibility. Finally, homework facilitates parent understanding of topics taught at school and allows for increased communication between home and school. "Homework" shall refer to those assignments to be completed by the student outside of school or independently or in groups while in attendance at school.

The following are considered administrative and educational guidelines related to the assignment of homework at the Sussex County Charter School for Technology:

- Homework should be a properly planned part of the curriculum and should extend or reinforce the classroom learning experience. Homework may also serve as an assessment of student knowledge and ability to integrate ideas and concepts.
- Homework should help students learn by providing practice in the mastery of skills, experience in data gathering, and integration of knowledge, and an opportunity to remediate learning problems.
- Homework should help develop student responsibility by providing an opportunity for the exercise of independent work and judgment, as well as experience in time management skills, and the balancing of responsibilities.
- It is the student's responsibility to complete homework neatly and correctly in a timely fashion and to advocate for him/herself if he/she experiences difficulty in fulfilling these obligations.
- The number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments should be based on the professional judgment of teachers in relation to the abilities and needs of the students, and take into account other activities, which make a legitimate claim on the student's time.
- Typically, daily homework will not be assigned to students over the weekend or vacations. Projects may extend over weekends and vacations, but a time

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allowance plan to get the project completed in such a way as to accommodate family plans should be a matter of student/teacher and student/parent discussion.

- Coordination and cooperation between teachers can be expected in terms of testing and major project assignments. Students are expected to advocate for themselves as well in the case of any conflicts in this regard.
- As a valid educational tool, homework should be clearly assigned and its product carefully evaluated and reported to the student in a timely fashion.
- Homework should always serve a valid learning purpose; it should never be used as a punitive measure.
- The school recognizes the role of parents by suggesting ways in which parents may assist the school in helping a child carry out assigned responsibilities. Parents are expected to help facilitate this learning process and are encouraged to provide instructional assistance to their children at home. On-going communication among teacher, student, and parent is essential for student success.