

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
OFFICE OF DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS  
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EDUCATION

DS ADMINISTRATIVE  
INSTRUCTION **2000.9**  
July 7, **1993**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS  
HOMEWORK POLICY**

**A. PURPOSE**

This Instruction is issued to establish responsibilities for the development and implementation of a Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS) systemwide homework policy. The intention of these guidelines is to provide DoDDS administrators with minimum standards for the preparation of school homework policies and for the evaluation and monitoring of homework effectiveness by members of the school faculty and the local community.

**B. CANCELLATION**

This Instruction cancels and supersedes DS Administrative Instruction **2000.9**, "Homework Policy," dated November **29, 1990**.

**B. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE**

The provisions of this issuance apply to all DoDDS educators and to students receiving education in DoDDS-operated schools. This Instruction does not apply to those students receiving homebound instruction and to those whose instructional program is governed by individualized educational plans when those plans exclude the prospect of homework.

**C. DEFINITION**

Homework is defined as assignments to be done outside the classroom to reinforce classroom instruction, increase understanding and retention, transfer and extend classroom instruction, prepare for class discussion and provide curriculum enrichment opportunities.

**1). COMMITMENT**

The development of study skills must be an integral part of DoDDS regional, district, and school educational policies. DoDDS strongly supports time philosophy that homework is a necessary adjunct to school life which serves different purposes according to the student's grade level. The assignment of academically appropriate homework is an extension of classroom instruction and supports the teacher's instructional objectives. It is DoDDS

policy that homework will be assigned within the DoDDS system in accordance with the needs and abilities of individual students and in support of the learning objectives of the particular curricular area. It should be recognized that "homework" may not always be paper and pencil tasks. Some of the homework in primary grades will be students reading to parents and parents reading to students, or taking part in host nation and creative art activities. It is good practice for parents and siblings to be as involved as possible with homework assignments. Study skills is an area that can be extended to homework assignments.

**E. POLICY**

1. It is DoDDS policy to assign homework as appropriate to all students capable of completing assignments.

2. Each school shall prepare, publish, and widely distribute the particular policies and practices applicable to that school. Individual school issuances shall be consistent with the following guidance.

(a) Establish appropriate ranges of hours per week of homework to be assigned. The following ranges are provided as guidelines :

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Hours. (Range)</u>
1-3	2-4 hours
4-6	5-6 hours
7-8	7-9 hours
9-12	10-15 hours

(b) Homework assignments are reinforcements for classroom curricular areas and are assigned to support student learning as appropriate for the ability of the student.

(c) Assigned homework will reinforce instruction accomplished in class; it will not introduce new or unfamiliar concepts or skills.

(d) Homework assignments shall be designed to meet the needs and abilities of individual students.

(e) Homework will be done outside class time, not during the instructional period.

(f) The burden that homework places on a student will be considered when assignments are made. In making homework assignments, consideration should be given school events and other subject area requirements.

(G) As appropriate to the nature of the assignment, teachers shall evaluate and return homework assignment to students and shall periodically inform students and their parents of the students academic progress and mastery of learning objectives.

F.. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Regional directors will supervise implementation Of this policy.

2. District superintendents will:

a. Provide technical assistance to school administrators in" the preparation of individual homework policies.

b. Maintain the most current school-level policy for each school in their districts.

c. Periodically, compile information about outstanding practices which -shall be shared within the district and with other superintendents.

3. Administrators will:

a. Implement the provisions of the homework policy as appropriate to the school and ensure that the school's policy is published and distributed to all students and parents.

b. Support teachers' efforts to ensure the completion of homework.

c. Plan for the periodic evaluation of homework policies with teachers, students, and parents.

4. Teachers will:

a. Identify the degree to which homework affects the determination of a student's grades.

b. Provide clear, concise directions for completion of homework assignments.

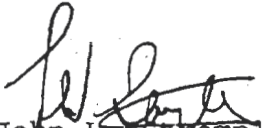
c. Check homework for completeness and mastery of concepts as appropriate to the nature of the assignment.

d. Evaluate, review, and return homework in a timely . manner.

e. Periodically discuss with students and their parents the student's academic progress, including performance on homework assignments .

G. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This instruction is effective immediately and will be implemented upon publication. Two copies of implementing instructions shall be forwarded to the Director, DoDDS within 60 days.



John L. Stemple  
Director