

## Monte Vista Christian Middle School

### Guidelines for the Assignment of Homework

#### And Responsibilities of Students, Staff and Parents (update 3/01/2013)

#### I. Purpose:

Homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of the Monte Vista Christian Middle School staff to assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Homework should provide students with the opportunity to apply information they have learned, complete unfinished class assignments, and develop independence.

##### **Homework assignments include:**

- **Practice** exercises to follow classroom instruction
- **Preview** assignments to prepare for subsequent lessons
- **Extension** assignments to transfer new skills or concepts to new situations
- **Creative** activities to integrate many skills toward the production of a response or product

#### II. Time

Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills, and selected course load. If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time doing homework, you should contact your child's teachers. Students are encouraged to pursue non-assigned, independent, leisure reading.

#### III. Late Work Policies

Students are expected to turn work in on time. Students who turn in late assignments will have until the first day of the next school week to turn in their homework or assignment for partial credit. After this time period has passed no credit will be given for late homework or assignments.

Students who miss homework because of an absence will receive the opportunity to make up missed work. Students are given one calendar day for each day they are absent from school. It's the students' responsibility to get work missed due to illness or absence.

#### **IV. Major Projects**

Major Projects include research reports, book reports, major essays, and other assignments teachers designate as major projects. Work on these projects may require more time so please plan accordingly.

#### **Responsibilities of Teachers:**

- Assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework that reinforces classroom learning
- Give clear instructions and make sure students understand the purpose
- Give timely feedback on homework and assignments.
- Keep Focus updated for parent review

#### **Responsibilities of Parents:**

- Set a regular, uninterrupted study time each day
- Establish a specific area for homework to be done and minimize distractions.
- Monitor student's organization and daily list of assignments in their iPad.
- Help student work to find the answer, not just get it done
- Be supportive when the student gets frustrated with difficult assignments
- Parents will check assignment calendar in Focus for more detailed information on homework and assignments not available in the homework e-mail .
- Contact teacher to stay well informed about the student's learning process

#### **Responsibilities of Students:**

- Enter assignments on their iPad calendar and notes
- Be sure all assignments are clear; don't be afraid to ask questions if necessary
- Every student is expected to dedicate one and a half hours per night for studying.
- Students involved in school sports teams are responsible for completing work on time that is assigned when they miss class for a game.
- Students are expected to check with your teacher ahead of time if you will be missing class so that you can complete your assignment when due.
- Find a specific area to complete your homework and minimize distractions.
- Work on homework independently whenever possible, so that it reflects student ability.
- Produce quality work.
- Make sure assignments are done according to the given instructions and completed on time.
- Manage your time so that you are not waiting to the last minute to complete an assignment.
- Use available class time for beginning homework.