

Grading Practices

School: Old Donation School

Subject(s): English/Language Arts

Grade Level: Middle School

Homework

Daily homework is an extension of the material taught in the classroom. It is designed to reinforce and extend classroom learning, to prepare students for new information, and to promote creative thinking and independent research. When assigning a homework task, teachers shall

- consider students' readiness for a particular task and purpose.
- align the assignment to current curricular objectives.
- communicate the purpose of a particular assignment.
- consider the purpose of the task when determining whether and how the homework will be graded.

The expectation is that the learner will complete daily homework on time and to the best of his/her ability.

When daily homework is incomplete, it affects that day's learning. Please note that the learner may or may not be allowed to participate in the ensuing class discussion or class activity if a daily homework assignment is incomplete.

Late Work

Teachers shall strive to empower students to exercise developmentally appropriate responsibility through built in processes, such as strategic planning.

Teachers will grade and offer feedback on what the learner has completed at the time the assignment is due. If students do not turn work in on the due date, the work is considered missing.

Students who exhibit a chronic pattern of turning work in late need further evaluation and increased levels of support, such as

- parental notification.

- classroom interventions.
- referral for guidance support services.
- SRT meeting.

Explanation of Zeroes

In assessing student learning, all student work is to be carefully considered. Every effort should be made to hold students accountable for completing missed assessments. Students who exhibit a chronic pattern of behavior around missing work need further evaluation and increased levels of support, such as

- parental notification
- classroom interventions
- referral for guidance support services
- SRT meeting

Teachers may use an "MI" for "Missing," (which calculates as a zero) until the student produces the missing work within the deadline determined by the teacher and it has been evaluated and given a score.

Reassessment

Any student who does not demonstrate mastery on a summative performance- based assessment may be given an opportunity for additional instruction and re-assessment provided that the student has

- participated in class
- completed assignments
- demonstrated evidence of best effort on the assessment and the learning leading up to the assessment.

Within a week of receiving a grade on a performance-based summative assessment, the learner may request re-assessment, provided that the student has met the following criteria:

- Turned the work in on time
- Demonstrated evidence of best effort on the assessment and the learning leading up to the assessment;
- Submitted a request for reassessment (within 3 days of receiving grade and feedback) to include a plan for improvement/timeline;
- Sought teacher approval for the plan for improvement;
- Completed their plan for improvement.

The learner may request re-assessment on other certain graded tasks in order to demonstrate evidence of student learning as it relates to curricular objectives. The learner must meet the same above criteria and understand that the nature of some assessments make them ineligible for re-assessment.

The teacher may determine if a student needs alternative assessment based on learning needs.

Make-up Work

When a student is missing work due to an excused absence, teachers shall

- provide all relevant assignments
- consider the length and reason for the absence when determining which assignments will be assessed and when they are due
- accept and assess all assigned make-up work
- provide reasonable and flexible deadlines that take into consideration a student's individual circumstances

In the event the teacher does not have adequate assessment data to provide a nine-week grade that reflects the student's knowledge of the course learning objectives the teacher may consider assigning a grade of "I" for Incomplete due to a lack of required evidence.

It is the student's responsibility to be aware of established guidelines and to follow those guidelines to make up the assignment.

Extra Credit

Extra credit opportunities will not be available.

For additional information, please access the [VBCPS Grading Guidelines for Secondary Schools](#) on vbschools.com.