

## TNA Homework Policy

Homework is a part of school life. Homework provides students with an opportunity to consolidate their learning and to complete work that they may not be able to finish in school. We have developed the TNA Homework Policy to guide you in determining how much and what type of homework is acceptable.

- ✓ All homework should have a purpose. It should not be assigned merely for busywork or to give a student homework. The teacher should be able to explain the purpose to you.
- ✓ Homework may be given so that the student can practice skills that they have not consolidated. This is one way of differentiating student learning. Students who have mastered the concept do not need to keep practicing. All students learn at a different pace and classroom practice time may not meet all students' needs for mastery.
- ✓ Homework may be assigned because the student chose not to use their class time appropriately and could not complete the assignment in class. In this case we are emphasizing that completing the assigned work is not optional. It will either be completed in school (which is preferable) or on their own time at home.
- ✓ Homework may be required to complete projects where we cannot give enough class time. This is more likely in the higher grades.
- ✓ Homework will never be new concepts. All concepts are taught in school and the student has sufficient resources and knowledge to complete their homework. If the student cannot complete their homework without parent support then they need to speak to the teacher the next day. Parents can certainly read directions, give guidance and clarify directions. Parents should also encourage the completion of homework and help the student set aside time to do this. **Parents should send a note or email** if homework could not be completed due to other circumstances or obligations. This should be a rare occurrence not routine.
- ✓ Homework should never exceed one hour per night (especially not primary grades which should be no more than 20- 30 min). If your child is taking longer than this to complete homework then there are other issues that need to be addressed. Occasionally larger projects in the older grades where they have not used good time management over the length of the project may require a concerted effort to complete their project, but this should be rare, not the norm.
- ✓ There will be times (in older grades) when homework is assigned and the expectation is that it be completed at home even when there was not enough time in class. This may occur because the students have the skills and resources to complete it at home, there have been circumstances that didn't allow for enough class time such as a fire drill or some other interruption or the lesson took longer than expected.

If you have any questions about the homework policy please speak to your child's teacher or to Mrs. Arnott.