



## **International School Delft Home Learning Policy**

**First Draft March 2015**

**Review November 2017**

**Review November 2019**

## **Philosophy**

At the International School Delft we believe that home learning is most beneficial when it is child-initiated and linked to their learning at school.

## **What is home learning?**

Most home learning is connected to the Unit of Inquiry. Children are encouraged to complete home learning independently where appropriate.

Homework always includes reading and may also incorporate other tasks. In Group 8, homework may also include revision for tests or for the purpose of reinforcing skills learnt at school.

## **Home learning procedures**

In Group 6-8, home learning is usually set for the entire week. On Monday, the home learning tasks and expectations are explained to the students. On Friday, students have to hand in their home learning. Towards the end of the school year, in Group 7 and 8, home learning is set on Monday and handed in the following Monday.

In Group 4-5 a reading log is sent home with a selection of tasks for the children to complete at home, based on their reading book.

An essential agreement between students and teachers is that students are free to plan and execute their home learning in a way that works for them. Some of our younger students may need parental support to plan and execute their home learning. Students are, however, expected to read every day.

### *Time spent on home learning per group*

#### Group 1-2

Reading: 10 minutes daily, Monday to Friday.

#### Group 3

Reading: 15-20 minutes daily, Monday to Friday.

Additional tasks: time spent on these tasks should not exceed 40 minutes in total, for the entire week, to be distributed across Monday to Thursday. This means your child should, on average, spend 10 minutes daily on additional tasks.

#### Group 4 and 5

Reading: 20 minutes daily, Monday to Friday.

Additional tasks: time spent on these tasks should not exceed 60 minutes in total, for the entire week, to be distributed across Monday to Thursday. This means your child, on average, spends 15 minutes daily on additional tasks.

### Group 6, 7 and 8

Reading: 30 minutes daily, Monday to Friday.

Additional tasks: time spent on these tasks should generally be 80 minutes in total, for the entire week, to be distributed across Monday to Thursday. This means your child, on average, spends 20 minutes daily on additional tasks. In preparation for their transition to Secondary education, Group 7 and 8 will occasionally prepare for tests and is expected to study for them at home. Some of this revision time may need to include hours during the weekend.

### *When home learning is not completed*

The essential agreement for home learning is that it must be completed and handed in on the agreed date. If a child does not complete their home learning tasks, the teacher will have a conversation with him or her about the importance of being responsible for their own learning. Where necessary, the parents will be invited for a meeting with the teacher.

### **Maintaining a healthy life-work balance**

During the week, home learning should not take longer than the times given for each group. Primary aged children need plenty of time to engage in activities other than academic learning. They need time to process what they have learned in school, which is only possible if the brain is given a break from academic activities. In addition, children need to be allowed time for relaxation, socialising with peers and engaging in sports and other activities that facilitate a healthy and balanced development.

### **How parents can help their children**

- Help your child to plan when he/she does their home learning and help them to do their home learning if they have difficulty starting the tasks set.
- Provide a quiet, well-lit place to work, away from sources of distraction, such as television and siblings.
- Listen to your child read or read to your child. Ask your child questions about the text to check for understanding.
- If you or your child has any questions about the home learning set or how home learning can be supported, please contact your child's teacher.