

British International School Istanbul
Homework Policy

At the British International School Istanbul, the staff and parents support the issuing of homework to children. The following guidelines are adhered to ensure consistency in in policy:

1. Homework should reinforce what has been taught in class.
2. Homework must be explained to the students to ensure that they are certain of what is expected.
3. Homework set should be graded to ensure that the work challenges the child.
4. Homework should not require a lot of parental supervision or help as parents may not be the carer (e.g. maids or grandparents) or may not have sufficient English.
5. Homework should be written into students' Homework Record Books.
6. Homework is compulsory. All children vary in the amount of time they take to complete homework. Teachers are sensitive to this when setting homework. The following time allocations should act as a guideline:

EYFS 2 (Rec)	Take home reader and words	10 mins per day
Key Stage 1	Take home reader	10-15 mins per day
Years 1 and 2	Maths	15 mins once a week
Year 2	Spelling list	20 mins weekly
Key Stage 2	Take home reader	15-30 mins per day
Year 3	Language/Mathematics	20 mins
Year 4	Language/Mathematics	30 mins
Year 5	Language/Mathematics	40 mins
Year 6	Language/Mathematics	50 mins

Explanation from teachers

EYFS

Letter and sound worksheet homework is optional depending on the student. Reader and words are strongly encouraged; the time spent on this at home is dependent on the student's level. We actively encourage parent and teacher partnerships; we ask parents for detailed information about home life, and we welcome participation and contributions.

Year 1

We send take-home readers for 10-15 minutes nightly. We send Numeracy homework (15 minutes) and Literacy phonic work and topic work on a weekly basis. These are at the level of the children. In the second and third term, we give the students' weekly spelling tests of CVC (consonant vowel consonant) and high frequency words.

Year 2

In Year 2 we send project work and/or a differentiated Literacy/ Numeracy sheet for 1 hour a week based on what we are learning about in class. We give differentiated spelling lists for 10/ 15 minutes a day and a reader for 10 minutes a day.

Year 3

Weekly project work is issued and is due in the following week. There is one Literacy task and one Numeracy task each week. Spellings are taught in class and tested in the week. Students should spend 50-60 minutes per subject per week.

Year 4

Year 4 project work is given out on a weekly basis. Weekly spelling tests are introduced and tested. Times tables are tested weekly. Students are expected to read every night. Any work that has not been finished in class or extra work is sent home to reinforce what has been taught in class.

Year 5

In Year 5 homework is distributed on a weekly or daily basis. Tasks are given so that the average Literacy/ Numeracy requirements take about 40 minutes to complete per night. Depending on when the homework is

completed, tasks are returned to the students as stated by the Class Teacher. As well as Literacy and Numeracy homework, Humanities/ DT/ Science/ Art work is also sent home. Children are expected to read at home.

Year 6

In Year 6, homework is used as an opportunity to reinforce skills used in daily lessons. We encourage our students to work independently on these tasks in a quiet and appropriate working space. The best homework aid is the careful recall of the steps and concepts learnt in class. Our homework consists of Literacy and Numeracy practice, Reader Response and nightly reading. Occasionally we substitute regular homework with a special focus project to allow the students to apply what they have learnt in class.

ESL

In Key Stage 2 (Year 3-6), ESL (English as a Second Language) homework is given in consultation with the Class Teacher. Where appropriate a Year 2 child may be given a very small amount of homework, often at their request. This is often completion of a small task.

Turkish and French

For beginners, in French and Turkish, the teachers give occasional homework such as spelling tests to reinforce the students' learning. For native speakers, homework is given on a weekly basis to support the work done in class.