

What is homework used for?

Ongoing homework is used to develop study and organizational skills, consolidate knowledge and prepare for the next class. It also helps develop strong learning skills and work habits, which are reflected in the report card.

Will I hear from my child's teacher at other times?

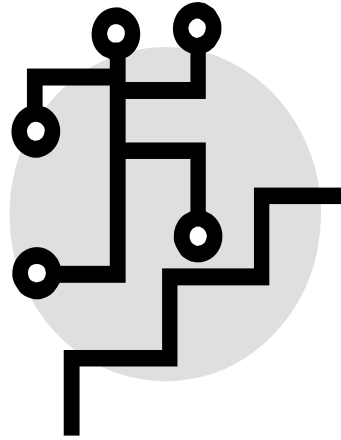
You should hear from your child's teacher regularly throughout the school year. Besides report cards, other types of communication include parent-teacher or parent-student-teacher conferences, interviews, phone calls, checklists and informal reports.

Are there consequences for not completing work or submitting work late?

Your child is responsible for showing what he or she has learned or accomplished in the time frame allowed by their teacher.

Ontario's policy lists many strategies teachers can use to both prevent and address late and missed assignments. Options range from peer tutoring and offering time-management lessons to school-wide planning of major assignments. In all grades, if your child consistently misses assignments or hands in work late, this may be reflected in the Learning Skills and Work Habits section of the report card. Grades 7 & 8 students may also have marks deducted.

The purpose of assessment and evaluation is to improve student learning.



Seize every opportunity for learning and growth!

If you have any questions, or want to have clarification on anything regarding the new provincial report card, please contact your child's teacher.

Thank you .

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District School Board of Niagara

Sheridan Park PUBLIC SCHOOL

***Achieving success
together every day!***

**New Provincial
Report Card**

Go Skyhawks Go!



Ontario students will bring home new and improved provincial report cards starting in the 2010-11 school year. These changes are part of *Growing Success*, the government's updated policy on the assessment, evaluation and reporting of student achievement.

What role do I have as a parent?

As a parent or guardian, are vital partners in your child's education and that children do better at school when their parents are involved.

Clear, meaningful and understandable information about how your child is doing at school and communication from your child's teacher regularly throughout the school year is important. This policy with its new report cards will help make that happen.

What is different for students?

Beginning this school year, students in Grades 1 to 8 will bring home a new fall progress report card and two revised provincial report cards, one in February and one in June.

The new progress report card:

- encourages early and ongoing communication between you and your child's teacher
- tells you how well your child is developing the learning skills and work habits we know are essential for success
- continues to report on all academic subjects - but instead of assigning a grade or mark, it will tell you how well your child is progressing: "very well", "well" or "with difficulty".

Essential Learning Skills and Work Habits

There are 6 learning skills and work habits:

- Responsibility
 - Organization
 - Independent Work
 - Collaboration
 - Initiative
 - Self regulation
- highlights strengths and areas to improve before evaluations are completed
- includes comments from your child's teacher that are personalized, clear and meaningful.
- The **improved report card**:
- also emphasizes and gives examples of the learning skills and work habits required
 - has ample space for teachers to add meaningful, clear and personalized comments so you can understand how your child is progressing
 - uses letter grades for Grades 1-6 and percentage marks for Grades 7-8 so you clearly understand how well your child is doing
 - provides suggestions on how you can support your child's learning at home.

Will teachers' comments be easy to understand?

Yes. All new report cards now include large spaces for teachers to add comments about what your child knows and can do. They can use the space to describe strengths and next steps for improvement as well as add their own observations and personal comments.

How do teachers determine my child's grades?

Teachers look at assignments, tests, demonstrations and projects for evidence that your child is learning the curriculum. This learning means more than just knowing the facts. Students must also show an understanding of what they are studying by communicating and applying what they have learned. They must also demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

All work is reviewed with special attention given to the quality of work at the end of a unit of study. As well as tests or assignments, they also talk to and observe your child in the classroom to gather as much information as possible before making a decision on the final grade.

What does an "R" mean on my child's report card in Grades 1 to 8?

An "R" means extensive remediation is needed since the required skills and knowledge of the subject have not been met. It is important to work with your child's teacher to develop strategies to support your child in gaining the required knowledge and skills.

What does an "I" mean on my child's report card?

An "I" means the teacher did not have enough information to assign a grade or mark. This may happen, for example, if your child recently moved schools or has had an extended illness.