

Tips for parents on how to keep on top of your child's academics:

1. Check agenda daily, make sure assignments have been written down and finished. Make sure teacher has initialed it and check for any comments by teacher.
2. Check homework postings on-line at www.sevenhillscharter.org
3. Make sure all of your contact information is correct and updated in our database, make sure we have all cell numbers and e-mail address.
4. E-mail teachers weekly (Thursday or Friday) and ask them to reply to your e-mail with a quick synopsis of the week and what is due/past due, what tests are coming up, etc...
5. Make sure your child has a quiet place designated to do homework.
6. Make sure your child is organized. Work is in correct folders, folders are in backpack, he/she has pens, pencils, notebooks, agenda.
7. Check backpack every night to be sure homework has been turned in and you get all letters home.
8. Once homework has been completed have backpack waiting at the door ready to go for the morning (have uniforms ready the night before also).
9. Create a calendar chart, marking when assignments & projects are due and all test dates, mark off days that everything was completed and turned in. Once they have a certain number of completed tasks, they can earn something (time is FREE and often the BEST incentive)....
10. Ask the teacher for an extra copy of projects with the dates each portion is due, and the rubrics (how it will be graded), so you can keep a copy at home for you and your child.
11. Attend all curriculum nights, SLC conferences, read all newsletters (they are sent home every Friday and are also posted on-line).
12. Make sure your child is getting adequate sleep (10 hours per night) and nutrition.
13. Volunteer in your child's classroom for an hour or two, to get a feel for how things work.
14. Join our parent guild or school advisory council.
15. Keep a copy of your child's schedule so you always know where they are and the names of their teachers.
16. If time allows, as your child to bring home a text book so you can read up on the chapter they are on and help them understand it.
17. Get your child to talk about their day, don't accept a vague answer, ask them about each class.
18. Try to get an understanding of how much stress your child is feeling. We feel stress everyday trying to run a household and raise a child and, for many of us, hold down a full time job. Our kids are feeling the stress of doing well in all of their classes while trying to figure out who they are and trying to fit in, dealing with body changes, extracurricular activities, and navigating their social world. Put yourself in their shoes! If your child is under a great deal of stress, try to figure out what they have to keep and what they can let go of and whose help they will need to deal with the stress they have to keep.

From the booklet “Helping Your Child With Homework” by the US Department Of Education, the following tips should be put in place:

- 1- Set a regular time for homework
- 2- Pick a regular place for homework
- 3- Remove all distractions
- 4- Provide supplies and resources (internet, dictionary)
- 5- Check with teachers regarding the homework policies (you can also do this on-line at our website)
- 6- Be available
- 7- Look over completed assignments
- 8- Monitor (and limit) time spent watching TV & playing video games
- 9- Help get your child organized
- 10- Encourage good study habits (break down assignments, projects, quiz them)
- 11- Ask questions about their assignment
- 12- Watch for frustration (give breaks)
- 13- Give praise
- 14- Talk to the teacher about concerns you have
- 15- Work with the teacher

“Helping Your Child With Homework (For parents of children in Elementary Through Middle School)” was published in 2002, by the DOE through the No Child Left Behind Act or 2001. If you would like to read the booklet please contact Lisa Dirsra, or call 1-877-433-7827 for a copy or order on-line at www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html