



LongfieldAcademy

Homework Policy

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Homework Policy

Intent

At Longfield Academy, we passionately believe that homework plays an important role in helping our students to make outstanding progress and is a core element for our students to 'achieve beyond expectations'. Teaching and learning and the delivery of our curriculum is not restricted to within the classroom or during lesson time. Our students are given every opportunity to improve knowledge, develop skills and master each subject through a fluid homework system. Homework also gives our students opportunities to develop their independence, resilience and organisation skills required for their studies and further education.

When setting homework, teachers will ensure the following key elements:

- Aims of the homework are clear
- Quality is prioritised over quantity
- Tasks are well-designed and linked to classroom learning
- High-quality feedback is provided to ensure progress

Research

This homework policy has been developed alongside research from the [Education Endowment Foundation](#) (EEF) which highlighted the importance of the four key elements above. Another key finding was that effective feedback can increase a student's progress by five months or more. This emphasises how important homework is to every student at our academy.

Aims

Homework enables students to:

- Consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities
- Access resources not available in the classroom
- Develop research skills
- Have an opportunity for independent work
- Show progress and understanding
- To enhance their study skills, for example planning, time management and self discipline
- To take ownership and responsibility for learning
- Engage parental cooperation and support
- Create channels for homeschool dialogue
- To further challenge and extend our most able students
- To provide focused and sustained support for less able students

Responsibilities

Student:

- To listen to homework instructions in class
- To frequently check for any homework that has been set on Google Classroom
- To complete all homework to the best of their ability and meet the deadline
- To contact the teacher setting the homework if there are any questions or concerns relating to the homework – this must be done in advance of the homework deadline

Teacher:

- To set all Google Classroom homework by 16:00 on the Monday of each week
- To set high-quality homework that supports the educational research referred to in this policy
- To record all completed and incomplete homework on Bromcom
- To make contact with home should there be ongoing concerns with incomplete homework

Directors of Learning/Subject Leaders:

- To support teachers in their department with setting high-quality homework
- To monitor the setting of homework to ensure the quantity expectations in this policy are met
- To provide examples of homework as best practice across the academy

Setting Homework

All homework is set on Google Classrooms. Every subject will have its own Google Classroom with the students as members. Within this digital classroom, students will see a topic called “Homework” with all their homework tasks listed below. Further details, such as what the task involves, the deadline and more, will be detailed here. If a student has any questions or concerns they are advised to contact the teacher setting the homework prior to the deadline. This can be done via the Google Classroom messaging facility.

The homework set will be a healthy mix of different tasks. Some will be handwritten tasks to ensure our students maintain and develop their handwriting skills in preparation for public examinations and situations where handwriting is needed. In addition, subjects have a wide range of online resources, such as Tassomai, which allow students to complete homework online. These tasks are especially effective for students to develop their retrieval practice over a longer period of time, further strengthening their ability to recall key information and knowledge.

Knowledge Organisers

At the start of every module, knowledge organisers are shared with students in their Google Classrooms. A knowledge organiser contains a range of information that students need to be able to recall in order to master a unit or topic. Some will also contain homework tasks that teachers may direct students to when setting homework.

Quantity

Whilst quality is more important than quantity, it is still integral for our students to be given enough homework that will ensure they are effectively challenged to secure academic progress. The academy follows the EEF research which recommends around five to ten hours of homework should be completed every week.

Students will be issued with the following quantity of homework every week:

- **Years 7, 8 and 9**
 - **Two** 30-45 minute pieces of homework should be set by:
 - Language and Literature
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - **One** 30-45 minutes piece of homework for each of the other MYP subjects (except Physical and Health Education)

- **Years 10 and 11**
 - **Two** 45-60 minute pieces of homework should be set by:
 - English Language and Literature (at least one should be handwritten)
 - Mathematics
 - Double Science (Separate Sciences – one piece per science)
 - **One** 45-60 minutes piece of homework for each of the other GCSE subjects

Subjects that are setting one piece of homework and have very few lessons per week may find it better to set project homework. This could last a whole module/unit where students add work to their project each week. Similarly, subjects with more lessons, such as English, may set one large piece of year 11 homework that would take an hour and a half rather than two 45 minute pieces.

Rewards and sanctions

It is important that the academy monitors the completion of homework and acknowledges when students do well. All completed homework is recorded and logged on our behaviour system. Outstanding pieces of homework will also be recorded and rewarded with a positive point. This positive point is labelled 'Excellent Homework' - to ensure that students and parents are kept up-to-date. Periodically, throughout the year, departments will give Amazon Vouchers to reward particular students for their effort with Homework.

If a student fails to complete or submit their homework on a set deadline, their subject teacher will record this and it will be available for Parents / Carers to see on the MCAS app. If a student is logged as having not completed three or more subjects' homework in one week, they will automatically be set an after-school detention for the next available day. If students consistently fail to complete their homework, a letter will be sent home.

Monitoring

Throughout each module, the quality and quantity of homework will be monitored by Directors of Learning/Subject Leaders who will share excellent homework examples and provide teachers with additional support where necessary.

Disadvantaged students

Every student at Longfield Academy has been issued with their own chromebook which will prevent there being any issues with accessing and completing homework set. In addition, the academy runs a “Success Lounge” (homework club) every Wednesday 14:00-16:00 to ensure students are given further opportunities to complete the work set. These sessions will have staff who will be able to assist students. This is closely monitored by staff who record when and which students attend as well as which homework they have completed.

Suggested timetables

Published on the Longfield Academy website, are some suggested timetables for completing homework. These are not compulsory as we recognise that students and families have other commitments during evenings and weekends. However, they are published as a supportive guide if students wish to use them.

A direct link to the timetables can be found here: <https://longfieldacademy.org.uk/homework/>