

## Liverpool College

### Homework and Independent Learning Policy



#### **Mission Statement**

*Liverpool College values the dignity of each individual and promotes the development of character and learning through a commitment to high standards within a caring community.*

#### **Core Values**

- We recognise** that all pupils have different talents and strive to ensure that every pupil has an equal opportunity to find and develop the talents they do possess*
- We believe** that the development of character, creativity intellect and spirituality, are the primary aims of education.*
- We work** together to create a happy and caring school community which is engaged in our local community and the wider world*
- We pursue** high standards in every area of school life*

*This is a whole College policy and applies to the Primary and Secondary Phase, Boarding, Breakfast Club and after school activities.*



Approved Date	16 November 2017
Review Date	16 November 2019
Principal	 Mr H vM Broekman

# **Liverpool College Homework and Independent Learning Policy**

## **Introduction**

Homework and Independent Study are defined as 'any work or activity which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time'. All work of this nature should have a clear purpose.

Homework makes an important contribution to the progress of pupils at school by extending the challenge open to them and ensuring that teaching time is used to best effect. This policy outlines the purpose and management of homework at Liverpool College.

## **The Purpose of Homework and Independent study**

Homework and Independent study includes any work or activity which pupils are asked to undertake outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or guardians.

Homework includes activities which:

- encourage pupils to develop the skills and motivation to study effectively on their own
- consolidate and reinforce teaching
- extend school learning, for example through additional reading and research
- develop the home-school partnership
- manage particular demands, such as coursework assignments.

Independent Study includes activities which:

- encourage pupils to develop the skills needed for independent learning to consolidate, reinforce and broaden the skills, knowledge and understanding developed in the classroom
- enable pupils to meet the demands of a subject
- form part of a revision programme in preparation for school and public examinations
- sustain the involvement of parents and carers in pupils' learning and keep them informed about the work pupils are doing

Homework should fit in naturally with the flow and progression of teaching, and have clear purpose; linked to departmental schemes of work.

The precise nature of homework should take into account the academic level of the pupils, the parameters and disciplines of the subject, and the particular part of the course being covered. Faculties are encouraged to use a wide range of tasks, including for example: investigations, research, reading, drawing, interviews, public library visits, designing, word processing, home experiments, drafting, revision, desktop publishing, essay writing, report writing, making models, and undertaking projects.

Homework should stimulate and meet the needs of all pupils.

### **Planning and Coordination of Homework and Independent study**

Homework throughout the College is timetabled and marked regularly. The college uses Show My Homework to communicate information regarding the setting of homework to pupils and parents.

#### **Pre Preparatory School**

The Pre-prep homework schedule is produced at the start of the Autumn Term, sent to parents and posted on the website. Staff should ensure that homework is set to the schedule.

#### **Preparatory School**

Pupils are set homework in English or Maths each day, except Friday when Humanities and Science will set homework on rotation. In addition a reading homework is set every night.

Homework for Y3 and Y4 should last approximately 15 to 20 minutes.

Homework for Y5 and Y6 should last approximately 20 – 30 minutes.

Homework Timetable:

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
Maths	English	Maths	English	Humanities/Science
Reading set every night				

#### **Secondary Phase**

A homework timetable is produced by the Assistant Principal. Teachers set homework as per the homework timetable and will enter the information on Show My Homework. Pupils are expected to use Show my Homework to keep a track of their homework and to find out their exact tasks. Parents are asked to use Show my Homework as a monitoring tool. Pupils are issued with Bullet Journals for the purpose of recording their homework. Pupils are expected to meet deadlines set for the completion of homework. Pupils who do not complete homework satisfactorily are given a 'write up' and expected to hand in the completed homework the next day. Failure to do this results in a Friday detention.

## **Middle School**

Pupils are set homework in at least one subject each day. Each homework task is designed to last approximately forty five minutes. Music and Drama does not feature on the timetable but projects with clear deadlines will be set throughout the year.

## **Upper School**

Pupils are set homework in at least one subject each day. Each homework task should last approximately one hour; however Trilogy Science will set one homework of forty minutes duration on each area of science including Biology, Chemistry and Physics, over the two week cycle.

Pupils are expected to spend at least 30 minutes per subject, per week studying independently.

## **Sixth Form**

Sixth Form pupils are set one homework per week in each subject. Each task should last approximately two hours.

Pupils are expected to spend at least five hours per subject per week studying independently. Vulnerable students are supported to develop independent learning skills.

## **Sixth Form Boarding Students**

Boarding students have 1.5 hours of supervised study time in the boarding house Monday-Thursday from 18.45-20.15. Students are expected to bring on-going work with them and study independently although relevant small group discussion is encouraged when helpful in finding solutions to work set.

All Year 12 students attend study time Monday-Thursday throughout the year.

- Year 13 students attend study time Monday-Thursday until October half-term.
- Year 13 students attend study time 2 nights per week until Christmas break.
- Year 13 study privately in their rooms after Christmas.

Boarding staff are encouraged to help boarding students with their work and their use of English in their studies as appropriate.

Private tutors attend the boarding house as arranged by the students. These lessons may not take place in a student's private room and usually take place in the kitchen/dining space on the ground floor of B block which is tutor accommodation. DBS and other identity checks are carried out on private tutors.

Head of 6<sup>th</sup> Form and Head of Boarding work closely together to promote good work practices with boarders and those who are high achievers are encouraged to support those who are under achieving.

## **Inclusion and Homework**

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks are appropriate to the ability of the child. Tasks are also differentiated according to need.

## **The Role of Parents and Guardians**

The College encourages parents and guardians, as far as possible to:

- provide a quiet, suitable place for pupils to do their homework
- encourage the child to use libraries and on-line resources for research
- make it clear to pupils that they value homework, and support the College in explaining how it can help them make progress
- encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed homework
- inform teachers if the work is insufficiently demanding, too time-consuming or too difficult
- check Show My Homework on a regular basis

## **Study Support**

The library and ICT facilities are available before school and at lunchtimes. There is a homework club in the library after school until 5.00 p.m. in the Preparatory and Senior Schools.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

### **Teachers**

Teachers should:

- set homework as per the homework schedule
- set tasks that are age appropriate and differentiated according to need
- insist that pupils complete all work set.
- Follow the Behaviour for Learning policy if homework is not completed
- systematically mark written homework according to the Assessment for Progress Policy

### **Subject Coordinators and Heads of Faculty**

Subject Coordinators and Heads of Faculty should

- ensure that suitable homework activities are built into schemes of work.
- monitor the setting of homework
- carry out regular book scrutiny to ensure the homework is marked according to marking policy

### **Vice Principal (Teaching and Learning and Curriculum)**

The Vice Principal (Teaching and Learning and Curriculum) should

- carry out regular progress reviews with Heads of Faculty to ensure that homework is being set which drives progress and meets the needs of the pupils

**Related Policies**

TL01 Teaching and Learning

TL02 Curriculum

TL04a Assessment for Progress

PD07 Behaviour for Learning