



Parent Guide for homework

We have received questions and queries from parents and carers concerning a variety of aspects regarding homework. We have summarised these below in what we hope will be a helpful guide which will enable you to further support your son/daughter

1. *'What is my role in homework?'*

Encouragement is a major role. Ensure that your child manages and copes with the workload. Sit with them. Talk to them about the tasks. If youngsters verbalise their learning they are more likely to retain the knowledge.

2. *'I'm busy and don't have time to help. What can I do?'*

It's not essential that you sit with them and work alongside them, but showing an interest is imperative. Ask them what tasks they're undertaking tonight and sound enthusiastic!

3. *'I can't help because education has changed since I was at school. I don't know what my child is taught.'*

You can support by appearing interested in school: reading the school newsletter; attending parents' evenings. Generally show an interest in school. Check the school website.

4. *'I don't know enough about a specific topic to help my child. How can I help?'*

Youngsters thrive on rewards and encouragement. Maybe look at some information together. Help collect information. Supporting is an excellent way of helping.

5. *'It's noisy and there's no space at home'*

The school has several homework clubs which run from early in the morning until 4.00. There are also opportunities at lunchtimes and break to complete homework. These homework clubs are fully supervised and supported by our experienced Teaching Assistants who can offer additional advice and support if required. Additionally the Independent Learning Centre is also available for students to access for homework; closing times are available on the school website

6. *'How much homework should my child be doing?'*

The following has been provided as *guidance* for the amount of time and frequency that homework is set but it is important to remember that it is the *quality* of the work completed rather than the *quantity*. The times provided below are a weekly average and the amount set may vary from week to week.



Please note that the following is a weekly average and the time will vary from week to week					
	Subject	Y7	Y8	Y9	Frequency set
KEY STAGE 3	English	2x 30 mins	2x 30 mins	2x 45 mins	Weekly
	Maths	2x 30 mins	2x 30 mins	2x 45 mins	Weekly
	Science	1x 45 mins	1x 45 mins	1x 45 mins	Weekly
	Geography	1x 30 mins	1x 30 mins	1x 45 mins	Fortnightly
	History	1x 30 mins	1x 30 mins	1x 45 mins	Fortnightly
	R.S.	1x 15 mins	1x 15 mins	1x 20 mins	Fortnightly
	French	1x 45 mins	1x 45 mins	1x 45 mins	Weekly
	Second Language	N/A	1x 45 mins	1x 45 mins	Weekly
	Art	1x 30 mins	1x 30 mins	1x 30 mins	Half termly
	Technology	1x 30 mins	1x 30 mins	1x 30 mins	Half termly
	ICT	1 x 15 mins	1 x 30 mins	1 x 30 mins	Half termly
	Performing Arts	1 x 30 mins	1 x 30 mins	1 x 30 mins	Half termly
	<p>As a rule homework will not be set in PE unless revision is required before the assessment period, or if there is a project which requires additional work outside of class. In which case students will be provided with specific details, via Show My Homework. Performing Arts incorporates Music, Drama and Dance and will be based on a project based on the class curriculum, similarly for all work that is set with a half termly frequency.</p> <p>In addition to the work set in class all students in Key Stage 3 are expected to regularly revise and review their notes, seek enrichment opportunities and challenges. They are also expected to read for pleasure for at least 20 minutes a night. In addition to promoting reading for pleasure, students benefit from enhanced fluency and the wider general knowledge that arises from regular reading, thus supporting learning in all aspects of the curriculum. Reading will be monitored by parents and not directly supervised by teachers. Literacy will continue to be promoted throughout the curriculum and reading for pleasure will be supported in all subjects areas and through the DEAR approach (Drop Everything And Read)</p> <p>All students will be provided with details of stretch & challenge and enrichment opportunities from each Faculty area, which they can complete without specific direction from the class teacher. We would urge parents to encourage their child to complete these additional activities if homework is completed quickly or easily. There should never be an opportunity for a child to say that they have no homework as these extension activities are available all year round and designed to enhance and develop the curriculum content to its very maximum.</p>				
KEY STAGE 4	Please note that the following is a weekly average and the time will vary from week to week				
		Y10	Y11	Frequency	
	English	2 x 60 mins	2 x 60 mins	Weekly	
	Maths	2 x 50 mins	2 x 50 mins	Weekly	
	Science	3 x 45 mins	3 x 45 mins	Weekly	



	<p>Optional subjects will have 60 minutes per week, per subject as appropriate and dependent upon revision, examination schedule and controlled assessments.</p> <p>In addition to the work set in class all students in Key Stage 4 are expected to read for pleasure for a minimum of 30 minutes a night; this will be monitored by parents and not directly supervised by teachers. Literacy skills will continue to be promoted across the curriculum, as will reading for pleasure.</p> <p>All students will be provided with details of stretch & challenge and enrichment opportunities from each Faculty area, which they should complete without specific direction from the class teacher.</p> <p>All students will be provided with details of stretch & challenge and enrichment opportunities from each Faculty area, which they should complete without specific direction from the class teacher.</p>
Key Stage 5	<p>AS/Y12 courses</p> <p>Please see the Sixth Form website for specific details, but in terms of guidance students have been advised to spend approximately 5 hours per subject per week in independent study, which will include homework and timetabled study lessons. This is the minimum expectation for Y12 courses</p>
	<p>A2/Y13 courses</p> <p>Please see the Sixth Form website for specific details, but in terms of guidance students have been advised to spend approximately 7 hours per subject per week in independent study, which will include homework and timetabled study lessons. This is the minimum expectation for Y13 courses.</p>

National Average

Year 7 & 8	45-90 minutes a day
Year 9	60-120 minutes a day
Year 10 & 11	90- 150 minutes a day

7. *'My child doesn't tell me about homework. What can I do?'*

Log in to Show My Homework to track and monitor the homework and for notices from class teachers. Ask your son/daughter's form tutor. Ask your child open questions about today's learning at school.

8. *'My child's homework is set irregularly and/or then it doesn't always get marked.'*

The first thing to do would be to talk to your child and make sure of the facts. If there is an issue, tell us via the class teacher in the first instance, or directly via the form tutor. If you do not feel you get a suitable response, please refer on to the Head of Subject or Faculty.



9. *'All my child seems to do is finish off work done in class'*

It is important from time to time to finish off classwork. However, homework should take many forms. If you aren't sure – ask or send in a query.

10. *'My child spends more time than is necessary on their homework.'*

Students work at different speeds. However, if they are spending inordinate amounts of time on tasks make a note in their books – or simply write 'x has spent 30 minutes on this task'. The teacher will then take charge of the situation.

11. *'My child find the homework too easy and/or finishes it too quickly.'*

As previously stated students work at different speeds, however, should your child be finding the work too easy or completing quickly, they can always do the extension activities that are suggested. It is also worthwhile checking the quality of the work that is completed as well. Should the work remain unchallenging please inform the class teacher in the first instance.

Finally.....

Homework is used to support classwork. It is an attempt to help youngsters become independent learners and more importantly form a base of good practice which can be built on in future years. Lymm High School regards homework as an integral part of the learning process.

We hope you've found this guide useful. If you would like to make any suggestions for improvement please contact Mrs Wardle, Assistant Headteacher.