



Homework Policy

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

Governor's Committee Responsibility: Curriculum and Student Welfare

Date Approved: Autumn 2023

Review Period: Annual

Next Review Date: Autumn 2024

The Limpsfield Grange Values:

At Limpsfield Grange we believe in working together to make a difference.

We are a tolerant community; we accept value and understand others.

We care for all members of our community without judgement.

We are responsible for our own learning, behaviour and actions.

We accept that sometimes things go wrong. We work together to take responsibility for our mistakes and for putting things right.

We are a respectful community and we treat others as we would like to be treated, even if they have different views and opinions to our own.

We understand that good behaviour helps us to prepare for life beyond Limpsfield Grange.

We are positive and resilient. We celebrate difference in everything that we do.

We are all proud to be part of the Limpsfield Grange community.

July 2023

Limpsfield Grange School

Homework Policy

Background and rationale

Many of the students at Limpsfield Grange have experienced difficulties in their previous educational settings or schools. This means that there can be significant gaps in their skills knowledge and understanding in the areas of Wellbeing, Achievement, Communication and Independence.

Homework at Limpsfield Grange can take a number of forms and is generally completed outside the school day. Dedicated time is given to the completion of homework tasks, for those students who are residential, and all students are aware of their tutor group weekly homework timetable. The majority of homework for Key Stage 3 is set in relation to our WACI areas of Wellbeing, Communication and Independence, as these are the key areas for development for young people with communication and interaction difficulties. In Key Stage 4 homework is linked to externally accredited qualifications in addition to the WACI areas of Wellbeing, Communication and Independence.

At Limpsfield Grange we believe that homework is a beneficial activity for the following reasons:

- Homework consolidates and extends classroom learning.
- Homework can help address gaps in prior learning and knowledge.
- Homework can promote independent study, research and revision skills.
- Homework can promote the development of personal responsibility.
- Homework can promote and develop skills in the areas of Wellbeing, Achievement, Communication and Independence.
- Homework can provide opportunities for teacher assessment.
- Homework can involve families and residential staff in the learning process of the students.

Aims of the policy

This policy aims to outline what constitutes homework at Limpsfield Grange School, how frequently homework is set, why homework is set and how parents and carers can support students to complete homework.

Scope:

This policy applies to all students and staff at Limpsfield Grange School, and the parents, carers and families of Limpsfield Grange students.

The setting and marking of homework

Homework is set for each student in accordance with a tutor group homework timetable. These are issued at the beginning of each academic year for classes in Key Stage 4 and those in Key Stage 3 who have started exam courses. The timetable specifies the day the homework is set, the day by which it is to be completed and the time that should be spent completing it.

- Homework must be planned as an integral part of the lesson.
- Homework must be realistic, purposeful, varied and planned to meet students' individual needs and start points and match their academic ability.
- Homework should be written down accurately by students in their planner. They should write in the subject, details of the task/s (or a detailed homework sheet provided by the teacher) and the date when the homework needs to be handed in. The time students should spend on the homework should also be written down in the planner. Staff give support with this as required.

- Homework must be clearly explained verbally and in written form, with reminders to students about asking for guidance from the subject teacher if needed in advance of the due date.
- Homework must be completed by students within the deadlines set.
- Homework must be marked according to the school's Marking and Feedback Policy.

In Key Stage 3 WACI homework is set on a weekly basis by the WACI teacher in the WACI lesson and collected in the lesson the following week. The time taken for the homework will vary as e.g. some homework may involve catching a bus, or completing a cooking task. Students record the details of the WACI homework in their planner.

In Key Stage 4 WACI homework is set each week. Homework is also set for examination subjects; each subject generally sets a one-hour homework task each week.

If students wish to complete their own additional study outside of school time teachers are happy to give broad suggestions as to relevant and worthwhile activities related to their subject.

For residential students, there are dedicated supported homework sessions twice a week and there is an opportunity for students to complete homework every evening. The residential team are provided with the students' homework timetables.

How can parents help?

Parents and carers can support students by encouraging the timely completion of homework and providing somewhere for students to complete their homework. Parents and carers should try to provide a reasonably quiet, suitable place for students to do their homework. We also hope parents and carers make it clear they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help them make progress at school. It is helpful if parents and carers can indicate if they have supported homework and what specific help they have given. If there are any difficulties with homework, for example, where homework has not been completed due to an unforeseen event or where there were specific difficulties with the task that was set, it is helpful if parents and carers write a note in their daughter's planner or email the subject teacher, with a copy to the form tutor and Miss Phillips.

The Curriculum Overviews, which are sent home to parents at the beginning of each term and are also on the school website, give parents and carers suggestions as to how they can support their daughter's learning at home.

Monitoring and evaluation of homework

The Assistant Headteacher is responsible for monitoring the quality, quantity, frequency, variety and suitability of homework across all year groups.

All teaching staff are responsible for monitoring the students' completion of homework set in their curriculum area. They should notify the form tutor when a student has not completed homework. The subject teacher is responsible for following up homework that is not completed and supporting the student in order that they are able to complete it. Parents and the Assistant Headteacher are notified if homework is regularly not completed.

Staff in the tutor team check homework has been written in the diary legibly and that the student understands what they need to do. Students are encouraged to self-monitor and strike through homework when it has been completed. The tutor team should also offer support to complete homework during tutor sessions and encourage students to talk to the subject teacher when they find the work difficult or need help to complete it.

The Assistant Headteacher ensures homework is set at an appropriate level for the student taking into consideration their individual start point and their reading ability. The Assistant Headteacher checks homework is marked with suggestions for the student about how to improve ('ebi') and what went well ('www'). The homework should develop students' knowledge and skills where possible in the WACI areas of Wellbeing, Communication and Independence and prepare the student for the rigor of external examinations. It is the responsibility of the Assistant Headteacher to follow up any issues or irregularities. Parents are also encouraged to contact subject staff individually to address particular homework concerns.

Monitoring and evaluation of this policy

The Curriculum Community and Student Welfare committee has an overview of the implementation and effectiveness of the Homework policy. This policy will also be monitored through lesson visits and curriculum development meetings with teachers.

Related Policies:

- Assessment and Reporting Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Equality & Diversity Policy
- Marking and Feedback Policy
- SEN Policy

Review

The Governing Body of Limpsfield Grange School adopted this policy on:

It will be reviewed on:

Signed

Dated
