



The Lyceum School – Homework Policy

At the Lyceum, we believe that homework is for the following:

- To help children to develop the habit of working at home
- To encourage children to be self-reliant in organising their work
- To involve parents in their children's learning
- To reinforce or revise work done in school

Homework is not intended to:

- Be an onerous chore or interfere with family life
- Cover aspects of the curriculum not already taught in school
- Be a punishment

In Reception, homework consists only of reading and reading support. In Years 1 and 2, homework is mainly reading, with some other simple tasks concerning basic skills at weekends. Parents are encouraged to use the reading log to write comments related to their child's learning. For the final term of Year 2, a homework diary is introduced.

The homework diary is a form of communication between parents and teachers, about the children's learning. Teachers want to know if a child finds a homework task difficult, or takes a long time to complete it. If homework is taking too long, or the child does not understand, parents are encouraged to stop the activity and let the teacher know. We would rather have happy alert children, ready to do a day's work, than children miserable and tired because homework has been a struggle.

No child will be reprimanded for very occasionally not completing homework through tiredness or a family treat. In Years 5 and 6, however, there is an expectation that homework will be finished on time.

In Years 3, 4 and 5, the amount of homework gradually increases, often consisting of written work, maths, spelling and times tables, and regular reading. Some aspects of topic research may be introduced.

In the first term of Year 6, the amount increases significantly as the children prepare for secondary transfer exams. For this term, the children receive Maths 3 times per week; English most nights; and at least one Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning exercise per week. Topic work is geared to develop or practise skills needed for the 11+ examinations. Children are also expected to be reading on a daily basis.

For the remainder of Year 6, homework is used to develop research skills, and gradually becomes more open-ended. Work which requires longer responses, working over a longer period of time is regularly set, in order to develop the skills needed for secondary school. There will be word-processing and internet research, and children should continue to read daily.

During school holidays, children are often set enjoyable tasks relating to their holiday activities. For instance, they may be asked to create a travel poster or booklet related to a place they are visiting.

Music is a very important part learning at of The Lyceum. Children learn the recorder from Year 1 onwards, and most children play other instruments. Instrumental practise is considered as important as all other types of homework.

The school has a homework club which runs from 5.00pm until 5.45pm. Children who remain for the club, still take their work home for parents to see. As the children get older, homework club may not be long enough for all tasks to be completed.

Reviewed by A.R 2016

Reviewed by S.T 2018