



4th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Information About Homework

Firstly, I hope your child has begun to settle into life here at Lowton Church of England High School. It's been wonderful for us to welcome them into our school and see how eager they are to learn and embrace life in a secondary school.

Homework is something which all of you are familiar with and I felt that it was important to communicate with you what homework is like at secondary school.

Why do we set homework?

Homework is an important aspect of school life. We set a variety of different types of homework:

- Work which develops and/or tests students' understanding.
- Work which develops students' memory skills so that they are able to recall information.
- Creative work designed to enrich a student's experience of a subject.

Homework is key in developing students into good learners who can cope with the demands of examination preparation.

When does my child start getting homework?

As circumstances are unusual at the moment we thought it best to gradually introduce homework to Year 7 students. This is because the majority of our students have not been in school for over 6 months. Initially we want to establish good learning routines in the classroom and settle your children back into school life.

Important dates:

- Until Friday 19th September **no homework** will be set at all.
- From Monday 21st September to Friday 23rd October – students will receive homework **only** in English, mathematics and science.
- From Monday 5th October – students will receive homework **in all subjects**.

How is Homework set?

We use a computer software package called Satchel One. This can be downloaded as an App onto phones, tablets and computers. All staff use this to set homework. Staff can attach resources to this and students can send their work back to their teachers via this App. We strongly encourage students to submit homework electronically via this App.

Over the next week students will receive training in their computer science lessons which will show them what to do. They will also be given their login information. Each student will be given a piece of paper which has 2 slips. One slip is for your child and one is for yourself. The slip gives login information unique to each user and clear instructions on how to log on for the first time.

Can I take this opportunity to encourage you, as parents and guardians, to log onto Satchel One. This will allow you to keep track of the homework your child has been set and support them with this.

What is set?

Below you will see a timetable which outlines the **day** each of the subjects sets homework for Year 7 students.

Year 7 (From September 19th through to half term)

BAND	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7a1	MATHS	SCIENCE	HISTORY	ENGLISH	MFL
7a2	MATHS	SCIENCE	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY	MFL ENGLISH
7b1	MATHS	SCIENCE	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY ENGLISH	MFL
7b2	MATHS	SCIENCE	HISTORY MFL	GEOGRAPHY	ENGLISH
7c1	MATHS	SCIENCE	ENGLISH	GEOGRAPHY	MFL
7c2	MATHS	SCIENCE		GEOGRAPHY	MFL ENGLISH

- **Creative subjects such and RS, Computing, Art, Drama, Music and Technology will set one homework per half term giving one additional homework each week.**

We ask staff to ensure that they give students enough time to complete the homework. It is normally a good idea to try and do the homework on the day it is set; however, we know that some of our young people have different commitments on certain nights.

What happens if my child is struggling?

There are a number of straight forward ways to deal with this:

- Use the communication system on the App. Students can use this to let their teachers know that they are having difficulties. (Students will be shown how to do this as part of their Computer Science lesson).
- Speak to the teacher in person via the school telephone or by contacting the teacher via email to their personal email address or via the enquiries email address (enquiries@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk).

What happens if my child doesn't do the homework?

If a student fails to submit homework they will receive a same-day detention, as per our LEARN detention system; however, we understand that there are always going to be circumstances where a child has been unable to complete a piece of homework through no fault of their own. If this happens please let us know and we can address this appropriately.

I hope this makes everything clear to you and alleviates any worries you may have.

Kind Regards,

E Sheehan

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