

Homework policy

The Lady Byron School



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Statement of Intent

At The Lady Byron School, we believe that learning extends far beyond the parameters of the classroom. Opportunities for learning at home and in the wider community are valuable opportunities for students to learn new skills and to practice skills learnt at school. We believe that parents/carers play a vital role in home learning.

We value the support of parents/carers, and we believe that this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school which is reflected in the Home School Agreement.

1. Aims

1.1 Homework is not compulsory in the Lady Byron School. However, there may be times where we would ask students to do work outside of school hours, or at the request of students themselves. To be most effective parents, carers, staff and pupils need to understand its purpose.

1.2 An autistic student might have difficulty with homework because:

- the homework does not meet their level of ability and need so they find it too difficult, become frustrated and then don't want to work at home
- they don't understand why they have to do work for school when they're at home
- it's not clear to them what work needs to be done if they have difficulty with processing instructions or writing, and are not supervised when recording homework
- they feel too tired after a long day at school or there may be too many distractions at home for them to concentrate
- they have difficulty with organising, sequencing and prioritising tasks and may misjudge how long to spend doing homework
- they feel that the work has to be perfect, and struggle to begin a task because of anxiety.

1.3 This policy relates to the possibility that homework is given to students; the completion of homework is not a requirement of The Lady Byron School.

2. Homework:

- Reinforces skills which have been taught in school and gives pupils the opportunity to practice what they have learnt;
- Encourages self-discipline as the pupils can take responsibility for their own learning;
- Promotes independent learning;
- Provides teachers with the opportunity to support and extend individual pupils;
- Sets standards for life and pupils become accustomed to working at home, preparing them for college and future employment;
- Encourages pupils to share their learning with parents and carers;
- Encourages parents/carers to become involved with their child's learning

2.1 We value the support of parents/carers and we believe that this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school, which is reflected in the Home-School Agreement. We recognise that all children need leisure time, and hope that our policy reflects a balance so that children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support while still allowing 'down time'.

3. Reading

3.1 We see the positive impact reading has on pupils' progress at The Lady Byron School and therefore we encourage students to read at home daily. Reading for pleasure is valued at all times and is not just confined to the total time spent completing homework. We want to promote a love of reading in every child. We encourage parents and carers to discuss their child's books and ask questions about them to ensure that there is understanding of their book as well as accurate reading.

4. Homework Schedules

4.1 From time to time, usually at student request, homework may vary in response to a particular activity at school or an educational visit. Homework content may be set as a project, written piece of homework or may include reading, games and activities to reinforce literacy, maths, science or other skills.

5. The Headteacher will:

5.1 Promote The Lady Byron School homework policy to staff, parents and pupils

5.2 Monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the policy

6. Teachers will:

6.1 Set homework activities which will include both practical and written tasks, if needed or requested by students.

7. Parents/Carers will:

7.1 Provide a suitable place where your child(ren) can do their home learning - somewhere reasonably peaceful, with supervision if appropriate

7.2 Make it clear to your child that you value home learning, and support The Lady Byron School in explaining how it can help raise attainment

7.3 Provide activities that support the homework set by the teacher

7.4 Ensure and check that tasks are completed on time and to a suitable standard

7.5 Be actively involved in homework activities with the children

7.6 Contact the children's class teacher if they have any questions or queries.

8. Pupils will:

8.1 Do their best to complete tasks as instructed

8.2 Ask for help as appropriate

8.3 Gain increased motivation and enjoyment through home learning

8.4 Highlight to the staff any ideas they may have to improve homework

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

9.1 The Deputy Head is responsible for ensuring that the homework policy is efficiently and effectively implemented within their class. This will be monitored by the Headteacher in order to ensure homework is contributing to overall pupil learning and progress.

10. Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

10.1 All children are provided with equal access to homework that is relevant to their current stage of learning. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of gender, religion, ethnicity or home background.