

# LESMURDIE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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## Homework and Study Guidelines

The Lesmurdie Senior High School community recognises the value and importance of homework and study as integral to supporting students to thrive and achieve to their full potential.

Homework/study bridges the gap between learning at school and learning at home. It reinforces work done in class and helps develop skills such as research and time management. Homework/study helps to establish the habits of study, concentration and self-discipline. Parents/Carers have the opportunity to see and monitor the progress of their child. Homework/study provides opportunities for consolidation and has the potential to challenge and stimulate students.

The effective use of a homework recording system (laptop or paper diary) to assist in organisation and to ensure deadlines are met is critical to support students to maintain a regimented homework and study routine. Students are encouraged to note due dates immediately in class to ensure they meet deadlines.

### Homework should

- Be appropriate for each student's age and ability
- Be interesting, challenging, and where appropriate open-ended
- Be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- Be assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided
- Take into account student's other commitments, such as sport, part-time employment and home responsibilities and
- Take into account technology such as email and the internet so that students without access are not disadvantaged.

### Study

Study is self-directed revision of class work, allowing for material to be reviewed and consolidated so that long term learning is enhanced. This can include concepts taught in class and long term review of concepts. An example is a concept learned in Mathematics or a text studied in English.

### Types of Homework

**Practice Exercises** help students to remember and practise newly acquired skills – such as memorising mathematical rules, essay writing, reading for pleasure, practising and playing a musical instrument.

**Preparatory Homework** requires students to source and read background information to prepare for future lessons on a specific subject - such as reading background material.

**Extension Assignments** encourage students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively. Assignments may include writing a book review, researching local news or retrieving information from the internet.

**Completion** of missed or unfinished work.

## **Purpose of Homework/Study**

- Allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class
- Provides training for students in planning and organising time
- Develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources
- Establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline which will serve the student for the rest of their lives
- Strengthens home-school links
- Reaffirms the role of parents/carers as partners in education
- Provides parents/carers with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their child
- Challenges and extends all children.

## **Recommended Time**

In order for students to achieve to their full potential at school, students are encouraged to devote time to homework/study on a regular basis.

The recommended minimum times are:

Year 7	45 minutes to 1 hour per night for 4 nights a week
Year 8	1 hour per night for 4 nights a week
Year 9	1½ hours per night for 4 nights a week
Year 10	2 hours per night for 4 nights a week
Year 11	3 hours per night for 4 nights a week
Year 12	3 hours per night for 4 nights a week

Students with individual needs should discuss this with the Deputy Principal appropriate to their year group.

## **Expectations**

### **Students can help themselves by:**

- Recording all details of homework set (including due dates)
- Being aware of the importance of homework/study
- Being aware of the school's homework/study guidelines
- Completing homework to a high standard within the given time frame
- Alerting parents/carers to homework/study expectations
- Seeking assistance from teachers and parents/carers when difficulties arise
- Organising their time to ensure that sufficient time is given to completing homework within set deadlines - not leaving work until the 'last minute' and to ensure sufficient time to study prior to assessments and exams
- Review aspects or concepts on a regular basis and setting up an appropriate study program
- Use the Study Hacks resource book to improve homework and study strategies.

**Teachers can help their students by:**

- Explaining to students and their parents/carers the purpose and benefits of homework
- Posting due dates on Connect
- Providing quality homework activities related to classwork
- Setting a suitable amount of relevant homework which is appropriate to the ability of each student
- Ensuring that students are aware of what is expected of them, and how their work will be assessed
- Giving students sufficient time to complete their homework, taking into account, as far as possible, competing home obligations and extracurricular activities along with homework set by other teachers
- Marking homework promptly and appropriately, maintaining homework records and providing feedback to students and parents/carers
- Alerting parents/carers of any developing problems concerning their child's homework and suggesting strategies that they can use to assist their children with their homework
- Clearly identifying how homework relates to the formal assessment program
- Using Study Hacks in class to promote sound work habits.

**Parents/Carers can assist by:**

- Taking an active interest in homework/study
- Ensuring that there is time set aside for homework/study
- Encouraging and supporting students to complete homework/study
- Providing, where possible, a dedicated place and desk for homework/study
- Encouraging their child to read and take an interest in current events
- Communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of homework and their child's approach to homework
- Alerting the school to any domestic or extracurricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or corrected
- Regularly checking Connect for upcoming assessment dates and resources
- Purchasing and reviewing Study Hacks and attending where possible the Parent Information Evenings for their child's year group.