

Homework Policy

Homework is a fundamental part of our general academic program. It prepares students for high school and college, and for entry into the working world upon graduation. It also helps develop a strong work ethic and personal organizational skills. While homework is often assigned in order to reinforce, test, and improve student skills, it also lays the groundwork for the following day's instruction. Homework assignments are crucial to the student's progress and to the teaching of each course.

In addition to regular homework assignments discussed above, we expect each student to read, or be read to, at least three times a week and preferably every day. The amount of reading homework varies for each grade. Teachers will inform students what is expected for their grade level. As cited in "A Nation at Risk," the single most important factor for determining whether children will go to college is being read to as a child.

Going to college is not necessarily a destination point for all—but becoming a life-long learner should be—if one hopes to remain competitive throughout one's lifetime. We believe becoming a competent reader is critical to being a good student, and the first step to being able to explore the world. By making sure your child is reading at home, you are directly contributing to his/her education. By reading to your child and participating in this process as a parent, you encourage your child's growth and strengthen family ties. By reading in front of your children, you model good habits and reinforce your expectations.

LCS students are to do their homework diligently and thoughtfully. They should apply their full mental powers to the task at hand, avoiding distractions and distracting environments. Further, they should use their time and energy wisely in order to complete assignments in a timely manner, with care and precision.

Homework assignments should be expected daily. The amount of time required to complete homework assignments is approximately 10 minutes per grade level per night, e.g. 30 minutes for 3rd grade students, 60 minutes for 6th grade students, etc. In addition, students should spend an additional 30 minutes reading—or being read to—each day. High School homework policies will be consistent with the above and modified as appropriate by High School teachers. Advanced high school courses may require additional homework time.

Parents can help by asking their child about the assignments and reviewing some of their work. They should also ensure that they have a quiet location in which to do productive homework. Having discussions about their child's homework is also extremely helpful. Even if only somewhat familiar with the material their child is studying, parents can ask intelligent questions about their child's understanding of that material. As students mature, they will be able to bring their knowledge of history and philosophy into a discussion of current events and ethical issues. Dinner conversation can be a good setting for discussing what the student is learning.

There are numerous consequences that follow a student who does not complete homework assignments. Students lose ground in the course, which impedes their intellectual growth. This is particularly true in the high school, where instruction and seminar discussion depend directly on the homework assignment. If students do not prepare the homework assignment, they cannot participate in the class. Thus, not only do they fail to benefit from the homework assignment itself, they also miss much of what goes on in class. Since the material in most courses builds incrementally on previous assignments, a student who fails to keep up with the homework may fall hopelessly behind. For students who do not have an adequate environment for completing homework, LCS may start a homework club to assist students to ensure everyone has the opportunity to complete homework. Each student from 6th grade onward will have one study hall period during each day. This is a perfect time to work on homework assignments that may benefit from the presence of the study hall teacher.

Teachers may use discretion in determining reworking of one or two assignments in a quarter depending on circumstances, for partial grade.

Middle & High School Incomplete Policy

Students must complete all assignments. An incomplete will be given for any student who fails to turn in all assignments for the quarter.

There is a great variety in the demands of each academic area, and consequently there is a great variety in teachers' systems of grading and evaluation. Late assignments will not be given full credit, and how much credit is given will be contingent upon the discretion and academic evaluation system of the teacher involved. In the case of excused absences, students will be given as many days as they were absent to make up their missed work. However, this make-up period may not exceed the end of the semester when final grades are due. Students will lose participation credit for any unexcused absence, for class sessions cannot be made up. Also, when an absence is unexcused, partial or no credit may be given for work missed. When students are absent, it is their responsibility to contact their teachers either in person or by email in order to stay on top of their lessons and all associated work. If the student fails to turn in missing work by the deadline, their assignment grade will become an F with 0%.

LCS Policy Adopted: July 18, 2011

Amended: August 9, 2012

Revised: December 15, 2016