

14 September 2020

To: Parents and Carers

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope your child has settled into the new term well and enjoyed their first week of learning.

As you know, we are currently running a two week timetable. This has necessitated some changes to our homework timetable. You can find a copy of our new homework timetable attached to this letter and also on our website.

Home learning forms an important part of our approach to teaching and learning at the academy. International research and our own experience tell us that homework has a positive impact on students' learning and plays an important role in developing independent study skills.

In line with research evidence on effective home learning, homework tasks at the academy are designed to consolidate learning, deepen understanding and prepare students for work to come. A number of home learning tasks this term will include self-quizzing. This involves a student using a knowledge organiser to test their own knowledge and understanding of topics already covered in class. Your child will receive some training on how to do this during form tutor sessions this term.

We would really appreciate your help in supporting your child with their home learning. You do not need to be a subject expert to do this! Some of the best ways that you can help are the most simple and include:

- ensuring your child has a quiet and focused place to work
- helping them to plan their time, including healthy breaks
- talking to your child about what they have been learning
- asking questions to help them test their knowledge (you can use the knowledge organisers available on our website to help with this)
- praising and encouraging your child

Knowledge organisers for all subjects are now available on our website here: <http://www.westlakesacademy.org.uk/parent-homepage/knowledge-organisers/>. To access the knowledge organisers relevant for your child, please use the following passwords:

Year 7 - Skiddaw12
Year 8 - Blencathra35
Year 9 - Ennerdale65
Year 10 - Buttermere16
Year 11 - Loweswater36
Year 12 - Thirlmere87
Year 13 - Ullswater93

Principal: James Jackson
West Lakes Academy, Main Street, Egremont, Cumbria CA22 2DQ
Part of West Lakes Multi-Academy Trust

t: 01946 820356 e: contactus.wla@westlakesmat.org.uk w: www.westlakesacademy.org.uk

I hope you find this information and the attached timetable informative and helpful. If you have any queries on this subject, please don't hesitate to contact me at the academy.

Yours faithfully,



Abby Deeks
Vice Principal

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HOME LEARNING

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Key stage 3</u>		<u>Key stage 4</u>		<u>Key stage 5</u>
	Year 7	Year 8	Years 9 and 10	Year 11	Years 12 and 13
English	Weekly 30 minutes	Weekly 45 minutes	Weekly 1 hour- 1 hour 30 minutes	Weekly 1 hour- 1 hour 30 minutes	4 hours per week per subject
Mathematics	Fortnightly 1 hour	Fortnightly 1 hour 30 minutes	Fortnightly 3 hours	Fortnightly 3 hours	
Science	Fortnightly 1 hour	Fortnightly 1 hour 30 minutes	Fortnightly Double Science students: 2-3 hours Triple Science students: 2 hours per discipline	Weekly Double Science students: 1 hour – 1 hour 30 minutes Triple Science students: 1 hour per discipline	
History	Fortnightly 30 minutes	Fortnightly 45 minutes	Fortnightly 2 hours	Fortnightly 2 hours	
Geography	Fortnightly 30 minutes	Fortnightly 45 minutes	Fortnightly 2 hours	Fortnightly 2 hours	
Modern Foreign Language	Fortnightly 30 minutes	Fortnightly 45 minutes	Fortnightly 2 hours	Fortnightly 2 hours	
Open subject/ option subject	Half term project per subject 1 hour	Half term project per subject 1 hour 30 minutes	Fortnightly 2 hours	Fortnightly 2 hours	
R.E./PD	As required				



HOME LEARNING

Please note that split teachers will work together so that these expectations are adhered to.

Year 7 students: complete 1 hour reading per week using their Accelerated Reader book.

HOME LEARNING

West Lakes Academy recognises the positive impact that homework can have on students' **learning** as indicated by research findings published on the EEF's Toolkit website. We also recognise the important role homework can have in promoting **independent** study skills. As such, all students at West Lakes Academy can expect to receive regular homework tasks.

Homework tasks at the academy are designed to **consolidate learning, deepen understanding** and **prepare students for work to come**. They are always planned to meet the students' **learning needs** and are always age appropriate.

Deadlines

Students are always given at least six days to complete any homework task. This affords students the opportunity to spread their work across the week, and to avoid days when they may have other commitments (for example sporting activities).

Recording

All homework tasks are set through Edulink. This programme, accessible through any device with internet access, enables parents, carers and students to see a record of homework tasks set. It also clearly displays deadlines, helping students to organise their homework schedule. Staff must inform students when homework has been set on Edulink.

Feedback

Students will receive feedback on their homework in line with the academy's feedback guidelines.

Sanctions for Non-completion of Homework

Students failing to complete a homework task on time, or not completing a task to an acceptable standard, will be sanctioned in line with our homework sanction ladder.