



NORTH WEST LONDON JEWISH DAY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK AND PROJECT WRITING

POLICY

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1 OVERALL POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of North West London Jewish Day School to set work to be done in pupils' homes, in Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Work at home will be set both in Secular studies and in Limmudei Kodesh. The School believes that the main purposes for the giving and the completion of Homework may be summarised as follows.

1.1 This policy will:

- Consolidate pupils school based learning.
- Encourage independent learning skills and pupil's time management development.
- Be in keeping with the Home/School Agreement.

1.3 In order for pupils to consolidate their learning teachers and parents should ensure that

- Homework is set regularly.
- Homework is taken in regularly.
- Pupils review and respond to feedback about previous homework before starting their next homework.
- Every pupil is expected to show evidence whether written or oral that homework has been completed.
- That there are consequences for pupils who do not do homework.
- Homework has been understood by the pupil.
- Every pupil has access to the books and materials, including ICT that they will need.
- Pupils have a quiet place to work.
- Parents devote some time to encouraging their child to complete work at a sensible time during the day.
- Parents know when homework can be expected in each class.
- That there is regular communication between parents and teachers when homework targets are not met, or if a pupil is having difficulties.
- That there is regular communication between secular and LK teachers to co-ordinate setting of homework, preparation for tests, giving of projects at certain times of year
- Teachers, parents and pupils regularly review this document.

2 HOMEWORK

2.1 Limmudei Chol (Secular Studies)

2.1.1 In **Reception** parents should hear their child read nightly. A maximum of five minutes individual help is an appropriate amount of time. The specific sound or pages to be heard are indicated in the Pupil's Reading Record Book. Hand writing homework is sent home weekly in the Summer term.

In Key Stage 1 (Infants)

2.1.2 In **Year 1** the pupils should read aloud several pages from their Reading Scheme or library book. In addition to this spellings will be given once a week to reinforce the phonic sound taught that week.

2.1.3 In **Year 2** pupils should continue to read aloud several pages. When they achieve fluency parents are encouraged to question their children as to their understanding of the text.

2.1.4 Having heard their child read, parents are required to sign (and comment if they wish), in the pupil's Reading Record Book and return it to school daily.

2.1.5 In addition **Year 2** parents are expected to give help to their children in learning their 10 words for a weekly spelling test as well as a maths challenge once a week. It may be possible that a book review given as homework when the pupil has completed a book.

In Key Stage 2 (Juniors)

All children in Key Stage 2 will be given reading record books which will need to be signed and returned once a week.

2.1.6 In **Year 3** homework is given three times a week and should take up to 30 minutes to complete. There is also a weekly spelling test and a times tables test.

In addition Year 3 pupils should read for at least 15 minutes every day, three of those sessions being aloud to an adult. As well as looking for fluency, parents should engage with their children by asking questions about understanding.

Having heard their child read, parents are required to sign and comment in the pupil's Reading Record Book and return it to school once a week.

- 2.1.7 In **Year 4** homework is given three times a week. It should take up to 30 minutes to complete. In class there is a weekly spelling test and a daily tables test.

In addition Year 4 pupils should read for at least 15 minutes four times a week with one of these sessions being aloud to an adult. As well as looking for fluency parents are encouraged to question their children as to text understanding.

Having heard their child read, parents are required to sign and comment in the pupil's Reading Record Book and return it to school once a week.

- 2.1.8 In **Year 5** homework is given twice a week. It should take up to 45 minutes to complete. In addition, in **Year 5** a spelling list is given weekly, to be learned for a Spelling test.

In addition Year 5 pupils should read for at least 15 minutes every day. One of these sessions should be aloud to an adult. As well as looking for fluency parents are encouraged to question their children as to their understanding of the text.

Having heard their child read, parents are required to sign and comment in the pupil's Reading Record Book and return it to school once a week.

- 2.1.8 In **Year 6** homework is given 3 times a week. It should take up to 45 minutes to complete. Spellings will be given out regularly to children every week.

In **Year 6** additional projects may be given at the discretion of the teacher.

In addition Year 6 pupils should read for at least 20 minutes, four times a week. One of these sessions should be aloud to an adult. As well as looking for fluency parents are encouraged to question their children as to textual understanding.

Having heard their child read, parents are required to sign and comment in the pupil's Reading Record Book and return it to school once a week.

During the academic year in **Year 6**, there are a number of examinations, interviews and the SATs exams. To decrease homework

and by how much, is up to the discretion of the lead Secular and Kodesh teachers.

2.2 Limmudei Kodesh

2.2.1 The Limmudei Kodesh Department views homework as a natural offshoot of the subjects studied in class and thus reinforcing the skills and knowledge gained in the classroom. As such, it will supplement the classroom work in whichever subject, by asking the pupils to answer questions directly related to the topic studied and the teaching thereof. It may consist of summarising a Mishna, answering a worksheet on Chumash, learning the translation of words for Ivrit, practising reading and the like.

2.2.2 Homework is only generally set for pupils in Key Stage 2; for Key Stage 1, it is expected that parents will discuss the pupil's work (including the Parashat Hashavuah; Chagim, simple Ivrit, etc.), and will practice reading with them.

2.2.3 The homework structure follows the same lines as that of the secular subjects.

- **Year 3** - half an hour once a week.
- **Year 4** - half an hour twice a week.
- **Year 5** - 45 minutes twice a week
- **Year 6** - 45 minutes 3 times a week

2.2.4 Hebrew Reading Homework

All classes from Years 2 - 6 have a weekly dedicated Hebrew reading lesson. Hebrew reading homework (in addition to other HW) is given to the children when they have a reading lesson.

The homework is in the form of a **booklet** which gives the details of the reading practice for every night. The children will also be given a **reading record book, which should be returned signed to the teacher together with the booklet on the day they have the reading lesson.** Reading record books will be checked every week to ensure the homework has been completed.

Reception and Year 1 will have a daily reading lesson and daily reading homework. The homework should not take longer than 5/10 minutes.

All Hebrew reading homework must be done with an adult who can read Hebrew.

3 COMPLETION OF HOMEWORK

- 3.1 If a pupil cannot finish the homework set in the allocated time, it should be signed by a parent.
- 3.2 If a pupil does not complete the homework and there is no parental excuse note, sanctions - at the discretion of the teacher - are to be applied. It is suggested that if a pupil fails to give in homework three times in a term a note is sent to the parent which demands acknowledgement of receipt.
- 3.3 Sanctions for homework not completed on time may consist of the following.
 - 3.3.1 If an occasional lapse - to be completed for the next day at home.
 - 3.3.2 If a more regular offence - to be completed in break.
 - 3.3.3 If homework is often rushed, incomplete or left at home, a pupil's parents will be asked to make an appointment with the teacher(s) concerned and further actions, such as being put on report, may arise.