



Teaching and Learning – A Guide for Pupils

Teaching and learning is the activity on which we spend by far the most time at school. Almost every activity you engage in at school has a learning benefit, but Teaching and Learning is focussed mostly on academic lessons. This doesn't mean that co-curricular activities don't matter – they are an essential part of a rounded education – they're just not the focus of this document.

We believe that an excellent LGS learner displays three qualities:

- Curiosity – this means showing an interest in each subject as a whole, not just in trying to pass your exams. It also means showing creativity and imagination as you develop your understanding.
- Responsibility – successful learners take responsibility for their progress, being organised with their work, tackling each task to the best of their ability, and asking for help when they need it.
- Resilience – even the most able learners face setbacks as their knowledge develops. Reflecting carefully on teachers' feedback, making use of available resources, and showing good effort levels even when things are tough all mark out resilient learners.

This document talks about the things that you can do to develop these qualities. Truly excellent learners take responsibility for their own progress, but remember, you are not on your own! Your teachers have a huge role to play in helping you develop, and your parents play a critical role in supporting you as you learn at home.

Attribute 1 – Curiosity

You can:

- Undertake your own research, anything from watching a YouTube video or reading a blog, through to more formal research like an EPQ in Sixth Form.
- Ask questions in class.
- Talk to teachers about their interests and ask for guidance about how to explore these.
- Take ownership of ideas learned in school, undertaking independent reading, exploring recommended websites and entering external competitions.
- Participate in co-curricular and super-curricular activities to deepen your knowledge and stimulate new interests.

Attribute 2 – Responsibility

You can:

- Be organised around homework: keeping your planner up-to-date and attempting work on the night set so you can approach teachers to ask for help... before the deadline!

- Undertake homework independently, in a quiet place, with your phone and other devices switched off and out of sight.
- Carefully read teachers' comments on marked work and in reports, think about how you can use these to improve, and ask your teachers if you are unsure.
- Look back at previous work to remind yourself what you found difficult.
- Be familiar with subject specifications and syllabuses in exam years.
- Catch up work missed if you are absent, including both notes and homework.
- Throw yourself into lesson activities and commit a proper amount of time to homework outside of lessons.
- Recognise when you need extra help and seek this, for example, at a subject help club.
- Ensure you get sufficient sleep, especially on school nights, to allow your brain to rest and recuperate before the next day's learning.

Attribute 3 – Resilience

You can:

- Set yourself specific targets for improvement that focus on the process of learning, not the outcome (e.g. "attempt my homework on the night it is set" or "sit away from people who distract me" rather than "get at least 90%")
- Focus on teachers' comments, rather than your mark.
- Write targets after tests to help yourself improve next time.
- Use your own resources, including textbook and notes, to help when you are stuck.

What next?

Each term we will choose one Teaching and Learning theme to focus on. Look out for these themes as they are communicated each term, and don't be surprised if your teachers try something different in your lessons related to that theme. Some themes will focus mostly on what teachers do, but some will require pupil input as they will be focused on you.

If you have any thoughts on this document, the Teaching and Learning Framework, or teaching and learning generally, please talk to your teachers or Mr Anderson.

In the meantime, we wish you enjoyable and productive learning!