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Ref: Year 7/8/9

7th September, 2009

Dear Parents,

HOMework AND ASSESSMENT

As you are aware, the school recognises the importance of homework in helping pupils to learn and achieve. In order for you to be able to support your child effectively, you will need to know when homework is set for each subject. Your child has been given a homework timetable, which should now be written in his/her planner. Please look at this timetable, and fill in and return the reply slip on Mr. Nichols' letter, so that we know you have seen your child's homework timetable. If you need to check the homework timetable at any time during the year, it is available on the school website: www.littleover.derby.sch.uk.

Please also note the following points:

- Each homework set should on average represent about 15-20 minutes work (Year 7-9) or 30-40 minutes work (Year 10-11). Of course the actual amount of time needed will vary, but this gives you a rough idea.
- All homework set should be recorded in the planner by the pupil. Please help us and your child by reinforcing this at home.
- In Year 7-9, some subjects (PSHE, RE, ICT, Art, Music, Drama) are taught only twice a fortnight or less. For these subjects, an *opportunity* for homework is shown every time the pupil has a lesson. In practice, a homework will *not* be set every lesson in these subjects. On average, pupils can expect one homework per fortnight in these subjects. Pupils will be expected to record homework for these subjects in the same way as for other subjects, but only when homework has actually been set.
- The pattern of Technology homework will vary considerably over the year, depending on the stage reached in practical projects. You should therefore not be worried if your child does not have Technology homework for some weeks at a time. Pupils will be expected to record Technology homework only when it has actually been set.
- During Year 10 and Year 11, the demands of coursework may mean that in some subjects the homework timetable is not followed strictly. Older pupils are expected to organise their time so that longer term deadlines are met, and the pattern of homework will reflect this.
- If you need to contact a teacher about homework (or anything else), please write a message in the planner, and ask your child to show it to the teacher concerned.

At Littleover, pupils are assessed in many ways, including routine marking of homework and classwork, end of topic tests, long term projects and formal examinations.

We recognise that pupils and parents would find it useful to know the nature and timescale of the major assessment activities in each subject. On the reverse of this letter is an overall plan for assessment for the relevant year group.

If you are not clear about anything in this letter, or have any other questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. We keep our assessment and homework policy and practice under review and I would welcome the views of parents on this important aspect of our work.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. A. Venkatesh
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER