



LEARNING & TEACHING POLICY

Learning & Teaching Policy

At Lochaber High School, all staff are committed to ensuring high quality learning and teaching takes place for our students, and we take pride in being experts in our subject areas.

Learning & teaching is always informed by current research in education. No two lessons are ever the same, but many lessons will have similar features across all departments. Some of these might include:

- Retrieval practice activities which give students a chance to review learning from previous lessons
- Sharing learning intentions and success criteria with students
- Interactive presentation of course content
- Opportunities to make students think hard about their learning which will allow them to practice and improve their work
- Pupils being given opportunities to engage with their learning in the form of self and peer-assessment and some elements of choice, where appropriate.
- Opportunities to receive feedback from their teacher about what their next steps are and how to achieve them
- We appreciate every child is unique and in every lesson pupils will experience appropriate support and challenge. (This is often referred to as differentiation.)

Many departments will also offer supported study sessions at lunchtimes or after school. Lochaber High School also runs an Easter School every year for pupils in the senior phase.

Staff participate in Professional Development sessions throughout the year to reflect on their classroom practice. This can involve training led by staff after school or during in-service days and is based on educational research. Staff at Lochaber High School also participate in regular classroom observations. This allows us, as a staff, to see great learning and teaching from other departments around the school, as well as receive feedback on our own lessons.

Glencoe House

Pupils with severe and complex needs may spend most of their time at Lochaber High School in Glencoe House. Staff in Glencoe House provide a bespoke learning environment that allows pupils to thrive and work towards achieving qualifications in a number of subjects.

Homework

Homework is a part of secondary school. Pupils are regularly given homework to support their learning and to encourage them to become more organised and promote independence in their learning. The tasks that are set as homework may include written, oral or practical activities and will be designed by the teacher to be worthwhile and challenging. This provides an opportunity for students to practice and consolidate what has been learned in class. Many primary schools no longer issue homework as it has been shown to have little or no impact on a child's progress but this is not the same in a secondary setting. The evidence shows that the impact of homework, on average, is five months' additional progress.