

Parent-Student Expectations

HLN is a tutorial which means we provide classes conducted by teachers for specific subjects for students. We provide all or most of the instructional portion of the week's work for tutorial subjects.

As homeschooling families you are responsible for making sure your child completes assigned work at home. Homeschooling families are also responsible for registering with the state or an umbrella school and for reporting grades and attendance. This registration is due each year by August 1st.

Look through your Teacher Manuals. Become familiar with the manuals and the texts your child is using. The Teacher Manuals and Keys are to be kept out of reach from students. They are for the parents only.

Know what work is expected of your child each week from HLN. Check to make sure the work is completed as assigned. Life can get the best of us sometimes, and things can start to slide. Before we know it we haven't inspected anyone's work in over 2 weeks. It's our job as parents to hold our children accountable. ***Inspect what we expect.*** Have a system in place, such as making a stack every day of completed work or checking certain subjects every Friday. Latin and math are daily subjects and are not meant to be crammed into 1-2 days.

Expectations and workload will vary from class to class and teacher to teacher. If needed, have a short Tuesday/Friday morning meeting with your older student to go over tutorial handouts and see what work is expected for the week so you are on the same page. Tutorials are an excellent opportunity for middle and high schoolers to learn time management because much of their week is consumed by being away from home, therefore leaving them less time at home to complete their assignments. If your child would benefit from writing their assignments in a school planner, we love [Order Out of Chaos](#) or the blank [planners](#) made by Memoria Press.

A note about study habits for students:

Particularly in math and science,

-Work must be tidy and organized.

-Work the example problems, don't just read them

-Always show your work with a math problem. Parents should *mark*, not *correct* student work.

Re-work the ones you miss in ink to show your parent/teacher that you re-worked it

-Make flash cards of vocabulary and/or use Quizlet. Many Memoria Press courses already have Quizlet sets created even if your teacher does not create something specifically for your class.

-In Novare science courses don't just read the Weekly Review, but actually do the work the review asks you to do

-Keep quizzes and tests in a folder for the year; these often become wonderful review tools for tests and finals

Parents, when grading math and science:

- Deduct* points on math problems, giving partial credit when possible
- Add* points for questions that require sentence answers; give points for correct information included in the answer; start with zero and go up from there (sample: If 10 points are allowed for the question, then a satisfactory answer should earn 7 points. Points 8-10 can be earned for extra information, thorough description, supporting examples, etc.)
- Emphasize using correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation in all subjects.

Parents and Students

- Communicate with the teacher. If you are lost or don't understand, ask questions right away in class or during the week by email. Don't wait and hope it gets better. It won't.
- Student Feedback Report- You will get one of these each semester from each of your child's teachers. They are just a feedback tool to help your child succeed both at tutorial and at home. It should not be a source of dread or fear.

Mastery-based learning:

We are working to break the cram-pass-forget cycle in education. Things that are worth knowing are worth retaining. By creating systems for learning-mastery-retention, students are put on a life-path of being able to learn anything they need or desire. At HLN, we want students to learn how to learn. Mastery learning will ask more of the students, but we know they are up to the challenge. To ensure success, we often do two things:

1. Encourage placement that is less aggressive than what some are used to. We know that correct placement is important to the student succeeding. In the words of John Mays, founder of Novare Science and Math, "Incorrect placement is an injustice to the student and precludes mastery of the subject."
2. Study fewer things and study them more deeply. You can't do everything. You can do a few things well. "...the greatest service we can do to education today is to teach fewer subjects. No one has time to do more than a very few things well before he is twenty, and when we force a boy to be a mediocrity in a dozen subjects, we destroy his standards, perhaps for life." C. S. Lewis, Surprised by Joy

Note to parents of students in 5th-7th grades: Students must become proficient in fractions, decimals, percents, and the 4 major math operations in order to be well-prepared for pre-algebra and algebra

Helpful Grading Rubrics:

Latin	Algebra
70% Quizzes	50% Tests
10% Unit Tests	30% Quizzes
10% Final Exam	10% Homework Completion
10% Class Participation	10% Final Exam

Science	10th-12th	9th	8th
Tests	90%	0%	0%
Quizzes	Total count as 1 Test	85-90%	90%
Lab Reports	10%	10%	0%
Homework	0% *	0-5%	10%

*Homework for these classes should be either Complete or Incomplete. It is not a legitimate assessment of whether learning has occurred.