

Lynden Academy & Home Connect
High School

Handbook 2024-25



Welcome to the new school year!

High School!

We are so excited to welcome you to the Lynden Academy and Home Connect High School. We are an alternative learning experience public school and do things a bit differently. Please read below for information and how our High School works.

Leaving Campus and Behavior

- Students who would like to leave at lunch, but have after lunch classes onsite, will need to have their parent fill out a form (ask for it in the offices). These students must be in 11th or 12th grade and have admin and parental consent. If they leave without permission, they are considered unsatisfactory for the month in which it occurs.
- Behavior is defined by the Lynden School Board and listed in our Parent Handbook. Please review the rules there.

Cell Phone/Electronics Policy

Personal technology can be a useful tool for both academics and communication, but it also can limit our ability to build strong, positive, interpersonal relationships with our peers. Classrooms should be places of rich academic discussions, critical thinking, and positive relationship building. At LA we strive for every student to feel included and valued. To support students, staff, and a more safe and focused learning environment we are updating our cell phone and personal electronics policy. We have found students are becoming increasingly distracted by electronics and the use of devices during class has even led to harassment of both students and staff. We are updating the policy to further limit the use of personal electronics during class time.

- During class time, phones, ear buds, headphones, electronic watches and other electronics must be silenced and completely “out of sight.” Any electronics in sight – whether being used or not – will be a violation.
- Rather than warnings and reminders, staff will confiscate electronics that are seen. Students will be expected to give the item to the staff member without issue so the focus can quickly return to learning.
- Confiscated electronics will be given to the office for the student to pick up at the end of the day.
- For repeated occurrences, students may have progressive consequences with an administrator.

Teachers will still give permission to use technology for academic purposes on occasion, and students can ask for permission for emergency purposes. Additionally, electronics will still be allowed during passing periods, lunch time, and before and after school, and following health, 504 or IEP plans.

Weekly Contact and Attendance

Regular attendance in your onsite classes and making contact with your SLPC in Home Connect is mandatory to participate in our program. If you are ill or need to be absent, reach out to the attendance secretary. LAC-Attendance@lynden.wednet.edu

- *One missing week: we inform you of the rules about missing contact via email.*
- *Two consecutive weeks or three cumulative missing weeks: you are now unsatisfactory and will attend a meeting with our principal to make a plan for success called a plan of improvement.*
- *Four Consecutive or five cumulative missing weeks: you are unenrolled from our program, and we work to place you in another program.*

When students in Lynden Academy's onsite program are absent frequently, it is disruptive to the educational process and the student is not participating in weekly instructional hours. This makes their learning plan progress unsatisfactory. Even when they are current with their homework and making weekly contact, they are still missing all the hours and academic experiences offered in their classroom. When this occurs, they become unsatisfactory. **If a student has been absent for 25% or more of their class days in any given semester, they may lose their onsite status and be moved to the Home Connect Program.**

Learning Plans

All students in our school have learning plans. These are a combination of their onsite and offsite courses. Students need to have at least 6 courses on their learning plan, but they may not have more than 7 courses, unless they are participating in credit recovery (11th or 12th grade).

Schedule or Learning Plan Changes

- If you want to change your schedule you **MUST** tell the registrar and your SLPC. To drop courses onsite or offsite, you must fill out *the request to change schedule form* in the offices of LA. Always double check your Skyward account and make certain your learning plan is accurate.

Monthly Progress

- Students must report on each course that is on their learning plan every month. This is done in High School Seminar class or at home if you are not attending an onsite High School Seminar.
- Your SLPC will determine if you are satisfactory or unsatisfactory based on grades, academic progress, missing assignments, behavior, attendance, and weekly contact.
- They will share this with you every month via email or in person.
- If you are unsatisfactory, you and your parents will meet with the principal and/or a teacher to craft a plan of improvement.

- If you are unsatisfactory three times in a row or if you have a pattern of being unsatisfactory, you will be unenrolled from our program.

Onsite Classes

Lynden Academy offers core classes and High School Seminar for High School Students on Monday and Wednesday. All students must take some offsite courses to fulfill their graduation requirements.

Offsite Classes

Offsite courses are important to support graduating on time. Here are the guidelines.

1. Offsite courses must be on the learning plan and be on Skyward.
2. Students must report monthly on their offsite classes.
3. Learning plans may not include more than 6 courses (onsite and offsite courses combined).
4. While parents and students can pick from several board approved curriculums, offsite courses must follow the certificated teacher's approved syllabus and learning targets. Please ask your SLPC (student learning plan coordinator) for the syllabus which outlines your courses.
5. All offsite courses must be turned in at the end of each semester for grading. Courses not turned in that are on the learning plan will earn an "I" for Incomplete. If the class work is not submitted by the last day of school in the same academic year, the "I" will be changed to an "F" for Fail.
6. If a student decides to change their offsite course, they need to indicate to the registrar and their SLPC that they are dropping the class. They must fill out a request to change schedule form in the office.
7. To check their full learning plan, please look on Skyward.

These are the only offsite courses we support. If you would like to add one to your learning plan, speak to the registrar or your SLPC and then follow the approved syllabus.

If you would prefer other courses not listed, please look at the Running Start section.

Math	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra 2, Personal Finance, Consumer Math, Integrated Math (I, II, or III)
Science	Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Astronomy, Earth Science, Physical Science, Environmental Science, Animal Physiology
English	British, American, World or European Literature; Strategic Reading; Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior, or Senior English; Creative Writing
Social Studies	Government, Civics, US History, World Geography, World History, Contemporary World Problems (CWP)
Art	Visual Art, Art Appreciation, Music, Mixed Media Art, Theater/Drama
Health	HS Health
PE	PE year one or year two
Home Economics	Culinary Arts, Textile Arts
World Language	All languages including ASL

Occupational	Experiential on the job, please see syllabi for curriculum. (Ag Tech, Early Childhood Education, Auto Mechanics, Technic/woodworking/ customer service and more)
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High School in Middle School

There are times when students in 7th or 8th grade might be ready to take a high school math course. If the student has successfully (85% or higher), completed a Pre-Algebra course, the parents must meet with the administrator to make a plan to start HS math.

Lynden Academy will not approve high school level credit for middle school students unless they are onsite in a classroom with 9th to 12th grade students. Offsite courses are not eligible for high school credits.

Home Connect

- Students are considered part of our Home Connect program when they have fewer than 2 onsite courses. They make mandatory weekly contact with their SLPC and their SLPC will determine their monthly progress from their weekly contact.
- Home Connect classes are considered Offsite. Please read the Offsite section to see the rules for your learning plan.
- Students in our Home Connect Program who do not submit classes for grades at the end of each semester will receive a fail “F” on their transcript.

Running Start

- Students in 11th and 12th grade may participate in Running Start.
- At the end of 10th grade students can sign up with their chosen institution.
- Courses can be taken at Bellingham Technical College, Whatcom Community College, or Northwest Career & Technical Academy.
- Reach out to the institution you are interested in and take their inquiry course to start the process.
- If you would like any support, please meet with Ms. Covington.

Credit Counseling, Graduation Requirements and HS & Beyond for all Lynden Academy and Home Connect Students

- Freshmen and Sophomore students need to take every core class and up to 2 electives per semester (6 classes).
- Freshmen and Sophomore students must attend a credit counseling workshop in September.
- Juniors and Seniors need to be aware of the credits needed to graduate to plan the classes they are required to take (6 or more depending on courses needed).

- Juniors have two credit counseling workshops to help them decide on which classes to take and complete their **HS and Beyond** plan.
- Seniors meet monthly during their senior year to complete their **HS and Beyond** plan and determine classes/credits.
- We encourage the parents to participate as well.

Grades and Credits

- Lynden Academy onsite and offsite classes are each worth a ½ credit per semester and a certificated teacher grades them.
- Credit will be granted based on completion of required work, quality of work, hours documented, and proper documentation
- Running Start courses are graded by each institution, and they send us a transcript.
- Parents and office staff are not able to alter grades.
- Offsite courses on a student's learning plan that are not turned in by the last day of the academic year result in an F.
- Classes not on a student's learning plan are not eligible for grades and credit.

Summer Classes

- We do not support summer classes. Offsite hours may only be collected between the first and the last day of the school year, as shown on your learning plan.

High School & Beyond Plan

The High School & Beyond Plan is completed as part of our Language Arts Class (6th to 12th grade). The High School and Beyond Plan is the culmination of a seven-year process that helps students plan their future and how to get the most out of high school, so that they're ready to pursue their adult lives, no matter what direction they plan to take. Students write their first plan in 6th grade and then continue to revise it throughout middle and high school to accommodate changing interests or goals. This is a state requirement and is necessary for a student to graduate from LA.

The High School & Beyond Plan will expand as each class is able to complete more of Lynden Academy's career and college readiness curriculum. Students will have sections to complete each year during which they will work with LA staff to complete the High School and Beyond Plan components and increase their career and college readiness. Lessons will revolve around three questions:

- Who am I?
- What then, can I become?
- How do I become that?

Graduation

- Each senior class participates in crafting their own graduation experience within the Lynden Academy & Home Connect template.
- Seniors work with the Senior Class Coordinator all senior year to support them in graduating on time.

Proposed 4 Year Course Plan for the class of 2025

9th grade (6 credits)

- 1 English credit
- 1 Math credit
- 1 Science credit
- 1 Social Studies credit
- .5 PE credit
- .5 Health credit
- 1 Fine art credit

10th grade (6 credits)

- 1 English credit
- 1 Math credit
- 1 Science credit
- 1 Social Studies credit
- 1 PE credit
- 1 Fine art credit

Proposed 4 Year Course Plan for the class of 2026 and Beyond

9th grade (6 credits)

- 1 English credit
- 1 Math credit
- 1 Science credit
- 1 Social Studies credit
- .5 PE credit
- .5 Health credit

- 1 Fine art credit

10th grade (6 credits)

- 1 English credit
- 1 Math credit
- 1 Science credit
- 1 Social Studies credit
- 1 PE credit
- 1 Fine art credit

11th grade (6 credits)

- 1 English credit
- 1 Math Credit
- 1 Science credit
- 1 Social Studies credit
- 1 World Language credit
- 1 Elective credit

12th grade (6 credits)

- 1 English credit
- 1 Occupational/CTE credit
- 1 World Language credit
- 3 Elective credits

- 1 Social Studies credit
- 1 World Language credit
- 1 Elective credit

12th grade (7 credits)

- 1 English credit
- 1 Occupational/CTE credit
- 1 World Language credit
- 4 Elective credits

11th grade (6 credits)

- 1 English credit
- 1 Math Credit
- 1 Science credit

**Lynden Academy
Graduation Requirements**

Name _____

Graduation Year 20____

There is a credit minimum required to graduate from high school in The Lynden School District. This is determined by the student's graduation year.

Language Arts (4 Credits) <input type="checkbox"/> 1. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 3. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 4. _____	Fitness/Health (2 Credits) <input type="checkbox"/> PE (.5) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> PE (.5) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> PE (.5) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Health (.5) _____
Social Studies/History (3 Credits) <input type="checkbox"/> 1. US History & Govt. (1.0) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2a. Civics (.5) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2b.CWP/Geography (.5) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 3.Social Studies (1.0) _____	Fine Art (2 Credits) Art, Music, or Drama <input type="checkbox"/> 1. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2. _____
Math (3 Credits) <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Algebra I _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Geometry _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 3. 3 rd Math _____	Occupational Education (1 Credits) CTE Courses - Career & Technology Education <input type="checkbox"/> 1. _____
Science (3 Credits) <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Biology with Lab _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Science with Lab _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 3. 3 rd Science _____	Electives (4-6 Credits based on grad year) <input type="checkbox"/> 1. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 3. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 4. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 5. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 6. _____
Additional Graduation Requirements: <input type="checkbox"/> Washington State History (Required, no credit) Usually completed in 7th grade <input type="checkbox"/> Graduation Pathway Met <input type="checkbox"/> High School and Beyond Plan completed	World Language (2 Credits- May also use Personal Pathway) <input type="checkbox"/> 1. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2. _____ **Personalized Pathway Requirements are related courses that lead to a specific post-high school career or educational outcome chosen by the student, based on the student's interests and High School Beyond Plan, that may include Career and Technical Education, and are intended to provide focus for the student's learning.

SUBJECT AREA	Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026 and beyond
ELA	4	4	4
Math	3	3	3
Science	3	3	3
Social Studies	3	3	3
Health	0.5	0.5	0.5
Physical Education	1.5	1.5	1.5
Arts	2	2	2
CTE	1	1	1
World Language	2	2	2
Additional Coursework	6	5	4
Total Credits Required	26	25	24

Lynden Academy- Running Start Credit Equivalencies

Each course taken at WWC or BTC will be transcribed by Lynden Academy as:

College	LA	College	LA
1.0 credits	.2 credit	4.0 credits	.8 credit
2.0 credits	.4 credit	5.0 credits	1.0 credit
3.0 credits	.6 credit	6.0 credits	1.2 credits

Lynden Academy unmet Credits	College Course	Typical college credit hours
English	Any ENGL& 101 or above	5
Social Studies	Any HIST& 100 or above US History is HIST 146, 147 or 148	5
CWP, Civics, or Government	POLS& 101 POLS&202 Econ 100 or above	5 5 5
Health	PE 181	3
Math	Any Math course 100 or above	5 each
Science credits	Any science course 100 or above (astronomy, biology, chemistry, environmental science, geology, nutrition, oceanography, physical science, or physics)	5 each
Fine Arts	Art, Drama, Music, Film 100 or above	5
Occupational Education (CTE)	100 level or above in any of the following areas: accounting, art graphics, business information systems, business, business administration, computer information systems, criminal justice, cooperative education, computer science, early childhood	2-5

	education, education, medical assisting, nursing, office administration, paralegal studies, visual communication, art 186 or PSYCH 105 (career search).	
PE	PE or Dance 100 or above	1-5
Electives	Any college course 100 or above	5
Personalized Pathway This is 2 credits of world language; however, please speak to the HS Advisor if you are unsure.	Any world language 100 or above: American Sign Language, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish. Any other class 100 or above that fits into your personalized pathway.	1-5
WA State History	HIST 214	Milestone met

