

Primary Learning Lighthouses

Welcome to Learning Lighthouses.

These primary lighthouses have been designed using objectives from the new National Curriculum and, roughly, equate to Years 1 – 6 (although not completely, as this is not intended to be an exact curriculum mapping).

Students sit one of the checkpoints each half-term (the checkpoint is chosen at random, this is because all checkpoints are available online to the pupils). If they gain all green on all of the questions (i.e. perfect answers in a RAG system) then they progress onto the next lighthouse.

By the end of December 2017 there will be new video links for every objective (each video being, approximately, 2 minutes long) to help students learn at home with their parents.

Included on the website are : tracking sheets, word and adobe versions of the lighthouses and everything you need to implement the lighthouse scheme in your class/school. The only cost will be printing.

I've included word versions of the checkpoints so that you can amend any part you wish (I don't believe all the objectives would be universally approved).

Feel free to amend objectives in any of the editable word or excel documents.

If your students progress beyond P6 you might want to refer to the original, secondary Lighthouses and begin at Lighthouse 2 or 3.

Below is the original document from the TES resources.

Liam Wegg (28.08.2017)

Learning Lighthouses – Millais School 2012 Onwards (Liam Wegg SLE)

We noticed an issue with basic skills back in 2006 and used my own creation of **“Essential Skills”** which was basic skills for students to be assessed on each term. These standard skills tests then developed into Higher and Advanced tests.

We were still not happy at the lower end and so then I created Learning Lighthouses Level 1 – 3 (not related to NC levels, **see archive sheet folder**). These were hierarchical assessments for KS3 students who would then progress onto essential skills. If a Y9 student had passed Lighthouse 3 then it was assumed that they had the pre-requisite basic skills for GCSE (i.e. were NC Level 5a/6c at the end of Year 9). **The questions are always the same but with different numbers each time.**

With the advent of the **new GCSE curriculum** we decided to move onto a Level system that could be appropriated to the new GCSE grading of 9 – 1.

We then spent time creating Lighthouses that cover all the way to the highest new GCSE grade.

Along the way we have shared our various forms of Lighthouses with other schools in the locality.

Credit must go to **Ralph Butcher and Howard Hoare**, both have previously worked at Millais, who have aided me greatly in the development of the 9 – 1 Lighthouses. Ralph's new school Tanbridge House School have developed the later Lighthouses slightly differently but the model remains sound. Ralph has produced a lovely macro to produce an infinite number of Lighthouses in excel that students can use to hone their skills.

Howard was our IT guru for a number of years and his marvellous results macro (used for our other assessments is included). Howard also did a lot of the donkey work on the building of the higher lighthouses once we had agreed on the content. Howard now works at The Glebelands School in Surrey.

Credit and thanks must also go to one of our current students, **Sejal Patel**, who has built the final four Lighthouse 9 checkpoints after being given the template.

Also **various members of the Millais Mathematics CA** have spent their time trialling, amending and developing the various checkpoints. For this I am very much in their debt.

We feel we have a system that works very well in building up skills in students all the way from the very weakest to the most able.

EVERYTHING DETAILED IN HERE IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THIS DROPBOX LINK (BELOW)

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/ju48t3bxlzkmsH5/LEARNING%20LIGHTHOUSES.zip?dl=0>

PLEASE BE PATIENT AS THE ZIPPED FILE IS 0.91 GB SO WILL TAKE QUITE A WHILE TO DOWNLOAD>

Liam Wegg, Director of Learning & SLE

Millais School

How Lighthouses Work at Millais School

We assess all Year 7 on entry with a Level 2 assessment. Those who pass would take the Level 3 assessment at the next checkpoint (i.e. the following half-term). Those who are very weak on the initial assessment go down to 1.1 (or 1.2 or 1.3). **See Checkpoints folder.**

We test on the first day back every half-term. If a student gains **11 or 12 perfect answers** on a Lighthouse they progress to the next Level next time. There are links between each Level to ensure the whole system is hierarchical (this is where our system differs from Numeracy Ninjas, which is a brilliant scheme we also use to test basic skills).

The assessments are 20 -25 minutes long (your choice). **Students self-mark (or their peers do)** using the excel answers sheets projected onto a board. **See Solutions in the CHECKPOINTS folder.**

Students have **open access to all of the checkpoints** and levels on our VLE, done via the dropbox link. We encourage them to do this. We also advise them to use the Lighthouse objective sheets to guide them in finding help on Corbett Maths (and Hegarty Maths which we subscribe to). **See 2017 Tracking Sheets.**

We decide on which checkpoint to use by rolling a dice so students would have to do all of the checkpoints the night before to ensure they could “cheat”. I don’t consider it cheating to practise.

Students record their results in their tracking sheet (that they glue into their diaries) with a RAG.

Green	Question completely correct (all parts no mistakes at all)
Red	Question completely wrong (all parts wrong)
Amber	Anywhere in between.

They then inform the teacher of their score which is recorded in the Lighthouse spreadsheet (this is part of a larger document at our school).

You will find that after a few checkpoints that your class end up taking a variety of Levels hence ensuring differentiation throughout.

This is a great start to a half-term for staff who can then make use of the time!

Resources

In every classroom we have a tray containing all the levels of Lighthouse for each checkpoint printed A5 size. They are different colours to help us identify which is which (and also helping dyslexic students).

Each different level is kept in a different A4 punched pocket, "slippery fish" within the checkpoint tray.

We also have larger coloured Lighthouses for other students who need larger fonts.

Students never write on the sheets. They write all their working in the back of their exercise books. This means they can go back and revise anything they have previously failed to be green on.

Targets

Students should aim to have passed Lighthouses 2, 3 and 4 by the end of Year 8 (or at the latest Year 9).

Clearly if students have progress to passing Lighthouse 5 & 6 by the end of Year 9 then they should be ready for the rigours of the Higher GCSE.

Liam Wegg 10.07.2017