Holy Family Primary School GOWRIE

Literacy Pro

Powered by
The Lexile Framework
Years 3 -6

Agreed Practice

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Literacy Pro / The Lexile Framework – December 2014

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Literacy Pro Agreed Practice

Literacy Pro is a research-based, online assessment literacy resource that provides teachers with evidence-based data so they are informed when making teaching and learning decisions to develop their students into successful, proficient readers.

Assess your readers to

Inform your teachers and students to

Develop reading success.

Literacy Pro is powered by The Lexile Framework. The Lexile Framework has been developed by MetaMetrics Inc. based on 20+ years of research. The Lexile data in Literacy Pro measures two critical aspects relevant to **reading comprehension development:**

1. **Student Reading Ability –** through the Lexile test
2. **Text Complexity –** analysis of Lexile level of books and other texts.
   (Scholastic Learning Zone, 2014)

The Lexile Framework

Matching Readers to Books

If we know the Lexile measure of a book and we know the Lexile measure of a child, we can tell how the book matches the child's reading ability - whether it is too easy, too difficult or just right.

When a reader has the same Lexile Level as the book they are reading, they are positioned to read that book with competence, confidence and control.

(Scholastic: The Lexile Framework and the Lexile symbol are US registered trademarks of MetaMetrics, Inc. The Lexile Framework is grounded in over fourteen years of research and has been developed in consultation with the Australian Centre for Educational Research (ACER).

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What is a Lexile?

A Lexile is a:

- Unit that measures the amount of challenge presented by a passage of text.

- Measure of reading comprehension.

The Lexile Framework determines the difficulty of text by a computer software program that uses a mathematical equation. It looks at the:

- Difficulty of the vocabulary.

- Complexity of the sentences throughout the entire book.

This information matches students with books at their Lexile Level and in their interest areas.

The following levels are a guide for teachers to monitor their students' growth and to be aware of those who are reading and comprehending below the expected level:

	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
Year 1	BR-BR	BR-BR	100-400	401+
Year 2	BR-BR	100-299	300-600	601+
Year 3	BR-249	250-499	500-800	801+
Year 4	BR-349	350-599	600-900	901+
Year 5	BR-449	450-699	700-1000	1001+
Year 6	BR-499	500-799	800-1050	1051+

(Scholastic Literacy Pro, 2014)

Why match readers to books?

Readers:

- are sufficiently challenged without frustration;

- are motivated;

- are encourage; and

- develop positive, life-long reading habits.

The Lexile Framework is designed for independent readers only.

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Procedures

At Holy Family, students in Years 3-6 use Literacy Pro to access The Lexile Framework.

Each term according to the Assessment Schedule, students in Years 3 – 6 will take the Literacy Pro test to determine their Lexile level. It is an online test only undertaken at school with the classroom teacher. The test needs to be completed under appropriate 'testing' conditions where students are able to focus without noise and distractions.

- Only students who have achieved beyond 30 PM Reading Level are able to sit the test. (The final PM Running record needs to be viewed by the Education Support Specialist.)

- Students in Years One and Two who have completed beyond PM Reading Level 30 will be carefully considered to participate in Literacy Pro after consultation by the Education Support Specialist with the English Coordinator.

- The test involves multiple-choice questions. The computer automatically steps questions up or down in difficulty according to responses. It is unique for each student as it assesses their reading ability and comprehension. On completion of the test, a Lexile Level is awarded to each student.

- Students using Lexiles will select, borrow and read books from the library within their range on a regular basis. The range for each student is 50 points above and 50 points below their given level.

- In Year 3, students are able to borrow 3 library books a week, which must include a Lexile book for school, and one for home.

- In Years 4 - 6, students are able to borrow 4 library books a week, which must include a Lexile book for school and one to take home.

- Students in Years 3 – 6 who are reading at a level 900+ are able to borrow from the general fiction section in the library. When the book chosen has been read, the student asks their classroom teacher for an activity to complete. The teacher corrects the work, logs onto Literacy Pro, locates their class and student and then allocates points.

- Students in Years 3 – 6 will complete motivational quizzes online to check their comprehension of the book read. They earn points and certificates.

- The Lexile quiz contains 10 multiple-choice questions. Immediate positive feedback is given on completion of the test and points awarded if the test is passed.

- If the Lexile book chosen from the library, within their range, has a sticker star on the spine, there is no online quiz. Students need to request an activity from their teacher to complete, based on the book read. Teachers will then mark the students' work, log on to Literacy Pro, locate class and student, and then record the book and allocate points.

- A teacher can only award 4 points maximum for an activity completed.

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The Lexile Framework and Reading Procedures:

Library

- An area allocated specifically to Lexiles is located in the library.

- The Lexile range begins with Read Aloud books, Beginner Readers and progresses to Lexile level books in the numerical range of 100 to 1300.

- Students have access to 8 computers to complete quizzes during borrowing times in their library lessons.

- The English Coordinator and the Education Support Specialist will monitor and track the reading progress of each child throughout the year.

- Award level certificates achieved for students will be presented on a weekly basis at school assemblies.

- A collection of Literacy Pro reports will be kept for all classes by the Librarian that will include: the students' current Lexile levels; Lexile growth, Proficiency Band, Certificate Level achieved, book comprehension, quiz pass rate and average quiz score.

Classroom

- Classroom teachers will monitor the reading progress and quiz/book activities completed by their students using the online reports available from the Literacy Pro website. These reports should be kept in a specific folder allocated to Literacy Pro and The Lexile Framework and be updated each term of the school year.

- Classroom teachers need to allocate time for students to complete online quizzes and book activities every week.

- Students will have access to classroom computers/iPads to complete the quizzes.

- Teachers need to provide Lexile time at school for students who are unable to access the internet at home and for students who have commitments to extracurricular activities. Using daily silent reading time or incorporating Lexile quizzes and activities in Literacy blocks are two possible ways this could be achieved and thus ensures the Lexile Framework is running successfully.

- Teachers will award points for non-quiz activities undertaken by students in the classroom and at home.

- Classroom teachers will record each student's Lexile Level on their tracking sheets.

Home

- Students in Years 3 – 6 are required to take home one Lexile book that supplements their home reading material.

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School Support
The Parents and Friends Association at Holy Family School have committed to providing financial assistance to support the purchasing of Literacy Pro subscriptions for Year 3 students and new students to Years 4, 5 and 6 as well as the current year's Lexile reading collection and quizzes. (Over the last four school years, 2011 – 2014, the P & F have contributed $20 000.00 towards the implementation of The Lexile Framework.)

The success of The Lexile Framework is driven by the classroom teacher and librarian. All students need to be encouraged to fully participate in Lexiles by reading widely and consistently from a range of genres, including nonfiction, and by completing comprehension based activities.

References

Nil

Forms

Nil

Approved by:	Holy Family School Staff
Implementation Date:	2014
Policy last Updated:	December 2014
School Contact Officer:	Anne-Marie Marek

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