



Home Learning Policy 2015

Written by : SLT

To be reviewed September 2017

Policy Statement

All pupils at Gomer Junior School benefit from learning at home. We believe that parents, carers and other family members can and do make a real difference to our pupil's education. Pupils learn a great deal at school and parents/ carers can add to that learning by supporting their child at home. With support and encouragement, pupils find it easier to adopt good home learning skills. Upon joining Gomer Junior School you signed a home/school agreement. You have outlined that you will support the school with ensuring your child completes their home learning – please do.

Learning Logs

All pupils at Gomer Junior School are provided with a Learning Log.

The aims of the learning log are to:

- Develop an effective partnership between school, parents and carers in pursuing success for all
- Consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding, across the curriculum
- Exploit resources for learning, of all kinds, at home
- Encourage pupils to develop the self-discipline, confidence, and motivation needed to study on their own, and prepare them for the requirements of secondary school

What does home learning mean and what is its purpose?

Through Learning Logs, pupils are given a series of tasks/activities each week. These relate to the learning that the children are completing in the classroom. The activities are designed to consolidate, reinforce or extend the skills that have been completed at school, as well as providing a useful self-assessment tool.

The benefits of the Learning Log:

- Consolidating class based learning
- The pupils take the lead role, sharing and developing their knowledge and understanding and displaying this in a range of styles
- The pupils can learn in their preferred style

- The work is driven by the child and not the teacher, parent or carer
- Children, parents and carers are brought together

Time Allocation

Y3 aim for up to 1 hour per week

Y4 aim for 1 hour per week

Y5 aim for 1 – 1.5 hours per week

Y6 aim for 1.5 – 2 hours per week

Reading at Home

We believe all children should develop the habit of reading every day. As the children progress through the school we want them to continue to read for pleasure and not just as a school requirement. To encourage the children, in addition to regular Guided Reading sessions in class, we offer a variety of support with home reading. Support includes Bug Club for some classes, banded books being sent home alongside a library free choice book and library sessions to help encourage secure reading habits. Pupils should be reading, ideally to an adult, every day.

Learning Log Schedule and Marking

Learning Log tasks are given to pupils on a Friday with the expectation that it will be returned the following Wednesday. The school electronic calendar provides a Learning Log schedule. On a weekly basis, Class Teachers outline what each task is and suggestions for completing it. The Learning Log itself has an outline of how to complete the logs to the Gomer standard.

Teachers will mark the Learning Logs and return them, along with new tasks by the proceeding Friday. Each week children will have a mathematics task, an English task, spellings and reading. The gSTEM task is to be worked on over a half term and has been designed for children to respond creatively.

On the Learning Log tasks sheet, there is a box for parents/carers to communicate any necessary comments.

Supporting Pupils with their Learning Logs

- Encourage pupils to read at home
- Give pupils time to talk about what they have to do – explaining and discussing the task will help their understanding
- Offer ideas on how to present the work
- Encourage pupils to work in a space which is away from other distractions
- Give Learning Logs a high status and a high priority
- Ensure that some days are Learning Log free
- Reward excellent work and effort
- Learning Logs are a partnership between school and home. For them to be effective everybody needs to be working towards a common aim

Rewards for Home Learning

Pupils are expected to complete their Learning Log tasks. The school do offer an optional Home Learning Club. The club provides a space for children to work, access to school resources and staff to help; not to do the tasks for the children though. To reward children for completing their Learning Logs the school will provide each child with a raffle ticket for a half-termly, year group voucher draw. In addition to this, children who complete their Learning Logs will be celebrated in assembly.