



INDEPENDENT LEARNING POLICY

Date of Policy: October 2024
Approved by Full Governing Body: December 2024
Review Date: September 2025
Staff responsible: Senior Leadership Team

Rationale

Independent learning can be an important part of a child's overall learning, fostering curiosity and excitement for topics. Tasks completed away from the classroom help pupils to prepare for future lessons and can embed ideas or concepts.

Pupils at Gilbert Inglefield Academy will be provided with independent learning tasks each week. These can be completed at home, during lunchtime in the library or at homework clubs. Optional after-school learning clubs are available.

Gilbert Inglefield Academy believes that independent learning encourages pupils to take ownership and responsibility for learning. It supports children to develop their organisational skills, resilience and problem solving.

Independent learning supports children to know and remember more by providing opportunities to consolidate and extend their learning. Independent learning supports children in developing a range of skills, including independent research.

Parents and carers are welcome to support their children with independent learning tasks. There is no expectation that independent learning will incur costs for families.

Expectations

Pupils in Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6) will complete three types of independent learning task:

- Reading Plus for twenty minutes, three times a week
- Times Tables Rockstars practise for ten minutes, three times a week
- Revising spelling rules, as often as required

Pupils in Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) will complete independent learning tasks according to the schedule below:

- Daily: Reading using their Accelerated Reader book for fifteen minutes
- Weekly: English reading related activities and maths practice
- Fortnightly: Science, History, Geography
- Monthly: DT, Art, Music, French, Computing, Religious World Views, Textiles, Food

Independent learning for foundation subjects may include online revision tasks, independent reading or subject specific tasks, such as research.

Rewards

Independent learning tasks will be checked by class teachers. Pupils will receive praise points for completed independent learning tasks. Teachers will keep a record of independent learning tasks. This will inform communication with parents and progress checks.

If pupils are not able to complete independent learning tasks, teachers should support pupils and ensure tasks are adapted to meet individual needs.

Responsibilities

The role of the student

- To listen to instructions for independent learning in class.
- To copy down instructions for the task and deadline date into their pupil planner.
- To ensure that independent learning is completed.
- To attempt all work and give their best.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties.

The role of the Class Teacher

- To design independent learning tasks with appropriate instructions.
- To follow the independent learning timetable.
- To use Google Classroom to set independent learning tasks, where appropriate.
- To award praise points for successfully completed independent learning tasks.
- To use independent learning tasks to inform class learning.
- To provide help and support for pupils.
- To inform Head of Department, Form Tutors and Key Stage Leads as appropriate, when problems arise.

The role of the Form Tutor

- To see that independent learning is being set and recorded.

KS3 Independent Learning Schedule

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
23/9, 25/11, 10/2, 28/4, 30/6	Science	Humanities	Maths	Music	English
30/9, 2/12, 24/2, 5/5,	French				
7/10, 9/1, 3/3, 12/5, 7/7	Science	Humanities	Maths	Computing	English
14/10, 6/1, 10/3, 19/5	Art				
21/10, 13/1, 17/3, 2/6, 14/7	Science	Humanities	Maths	RW	English
14/11, 20/1, 24/3, 9/6	Design technology				
11/11, 27/1, 31/3, 16/6	Science	Humanities	Maths	Music	English
18/11, 3/2, 21/4, 23/6	Textiles/food				