

# Gnosall St Lawrence CE Primary Academy



## Classroom Organisation & Display Policy



## Contents

- Aims of Display & Classroom Organisation - Page 3
- Expectations of Classroom Display - Page 4
- Expectations of Classroom Organisation - Page 7

## Aims of Display & Classroom Organisation

At Gnosall St Lawrence we aim to:

- Encourage pupils to have pride and confidence in their work and achievements by demonstrating that **we value their work and learning**
- **Create a learning environment that stimulates interest and discussion** to challenge children's knowledge and understanding of the world
- **Encourage respect for the school environment** and actively work to ensure it is an enriched place to work and learn
- Influence children in best presentation, personal organisation and general tidiness
- **Celebrate achievement** and raise self-esteem for all
- Use display and resources to **positively impact on learning** - through consolidation / reminder of previous learning and introducing new information & knowledge.

## Expectations on Classroom Display

- A high quality learning environment has a direct impact on the standards and attitudes of the pupils in our school.
- Initial stimulus displays should be in place before the children return to school in the new academic year.

These include:

- Key questions and key vocabulary related to topics / specific subject areas
  - Posters with accompanying questions to stimulate the children's interest
  - Table top displays of artefacts / books / resources linked to the curriculum
  - Book corners set up / labelled and books attractively displayed (preferably with canopied area to demarcate the area from the rest of the classroom and lighting to add interest)
  - As work is generated from the children this should be used to replace the majority of adult generated displays and resources
  - Full display in classrooms should be fully in place by the first week back after Autumn half-term
- Display should be carefully planned for and time built in for children to take forward work of the highest possible quality into display.
  - Classroom displays should be changed termly as a minimum.
  - When displays are changed, worn or faded backing should be replaced and recycled. Displays should be maintained to ensure that they do not become tatty or ragged.
  - Work should be attached with staples or blu tak. **Drawing pins must not be used to display work** as they are a health & safety hazard and detract from pupils' work.
  - Pritt Pads should never be used on painted or tiled walls as they damage the surface and look messy when work is removed. Please do not staple into wood (doors and furniture).

Displays should contain:

- Plain wall backing unless produced by children e.g. a mural. This will show the pupils' work to best effect without detracting from it or appearing cluttered.
- Thoughtfully and tastefully selected colours must be used being mindful that we are a dyslexic friendly school and that colours must be easy on the eye and not clash
- Borders **MUST** be made of purchased border rolls. Work on display should not overlap the border, unless as an intentional design element, as children's work should be thoughtfully positioned and spaced.
- Use fabric to add interest to displays and to ensure quality presentation (use expertise of other staff to support, where necessary).

- A high percentage of display in classroom should be pupils' work. Pupils' work should significantly outweigh other display resources (although these can be very effective in consolidating / extending learning).
- At a practical level, refer to displays when teaching to make meaningful links with previous learning / new learning. **Display is not intended as decoration** - it celebrates achievement, gives a wider audience to learning, reminds pupils of what they have learned / achieved, encourages higher standards through accessing the work of others and can enrich learning.
- Classroom displays should include: Topic (main topic eg. Tudors) / Maths / Literacy / Science / ICT through whole curriculum / RE & PSHCE / Children's groupings & class timetable. Please do not use a display board for your personal organisational papers. These should be at close hand in a file. We want to maximise display space for children's work.

All displays must have:

- A title (computer generated or created using stencils and coloured paper / card)
- Open / closed questions
- Learning Objectives/ Aim where appropriate
- Process (what the children did)
- Reinforcement of key vocabulary
- Quality labelling
- Use a dyslexic friendly font, sizing 12 or above (Arial, Comic Sans, Century Gothic, Verdana, Trebuchet or Calibri)
- Written work on display (final draft work) should be acknowledged and neatly marked and the learning intention should be clear to the audience reading it. Emergent writing of younger pupils and those with SEN should be annotated.
- Larger displays should have word processed banners or lettering cut out using wooden stencils and be edged. The use of metallic foil / wrapping paper can make a display look very effective and high quality.
- All work must be mounted. Art work should be double mounted using appropriate colours which complement the end result. Written work should also be mounted, though not always necessarily double-mounted.
- Please ensure that work is trimmed and mounted **evenly** and intended straight edges are **straight**. Please use paper cutters provided. A border of 1cm is advised. Pupils should be progressively taught to mount their own work.

Classrooms must have:

- High quality writing displayed across the curriculum (improving our pupils' writing is an ongoing continuing whole school focus)
- Support resources e.g. A maths 100 square, number lines, place value charts, speaking & listening prompts, high frequency words
- Evidence of ICT through displays (not only word-processed work)
- Display clear days for Guided reading groups / changing reading books
- PE days and expectations of kit must be displayed
- Working groups should be on display.
- Fire evacuation procedures (Health & Safety requirement)
- Appropriate child-friendly lock down procedures

- RWI simple or complex sound chart in all classrooms - age appropriate and according to the children's understanding
- Literacy and maths working wall with examples of work - WAGOLLS - what a good one looks like and this must be a working wall that is changed on an almost daily basis in order to assist the children with the progress in their learning.
  
- Book areas that are tidied daily and regularly sorted, either by your TA or pupils - preferably the latter so that they take ownership of the area.
  
- Teachers are encouraged to delegate some responsibility to named pupils for the upkeep and maintenance of the classroom and general learning environment. Good routines for tidying away are crucial and labour saving. Classes should not be dismissed to lunch / home until the classroom is tidy.
  
- Daily timetable should be displayed on the board each day.

Everyone has both strengths and development needs as a teacher. If display is your strength share it. If display is not your strength ask for support!

## Expectations on Classroom Organisation

- The overall effect of the classroom environment should be one of organisation. This sets a high standard of organisation and display which will support the further raising of educational standards and create a working environment which is attractive and stimulating. Please keep your classrooms neat and tidy. Use the cupboard space to store teacher resources. Try to keep surfaces clear, other than for interactive displays for children.

This means:

- Piles of junk / books / teaching resources / pupils' work should not be left scattered in disorganised piles.
  - Do not hoard resources. When you have finished using them they should be promptly returned to the Storage Room so other staff can access them easily (please support colleagues by putting resources away properly in the correct place. If you are unsure, ask).
  - Be selective in what you keep. Do not hoard junk and clutter.
  - Cupboards and paper chests should be sorted out each term to maintain high levels of organisation and effectiveness.
  - Teachers' desks should not be piled high with resources / paper or folders. Develop organisation systems within your room and maintain them. Desks should be tidied and cleared at the end of each day to allow for cleaning.
  - Storage mechanisms (files / plastic boxes etc) need to be in good condition and attractive.
  - Chairs and tables should be kept straight and tidy and chairs tucked under.
- Clear routines and expectations should be established rapidly:
    - Standing behind chairs (Y1 - Y6) on exit at lunchtime / end of the day
    - Greeting the children (remembering to smile)
    - Early morning work relating to basic skills teaching (maximising learning time)
    - Packing away / tidying up
    - Lining up outside classroom to ensure controlled entry
    - Classroom monitors / Responsibility systems
    - Stop signals and accompanying expectations
    - Working in a calm, purposeful and settled manner
    - Moving around the building
  - Classrooms should be fully set up for first lesson ideally the night before. If you are on a course and leaving work for a supply teacher the first lesson must be set up the evening before and a file of notes left for the supply teacher clearly labelled on the teacher's desk.
  - Chairs under / tables straight **before** children leave the classroom (throughout the day as an established routine). Please actively encourage and train children to take care of the learning environment and equipment. Train children to tidy up the classroom at the end of the morning sessions and at the end of each day.
  - Labelling on trays, cupboards and equipment should be consistent in terms of the font used and quality of mounting. Pupils' trays must be labelled with both the child's Christian name and surname. For most labelling of furniture and equipment we use Trebuchet in the juniors. Comic Sans, Sassoon or Lucida handwriting can be used - but be consistent in always using the same font.

Signed 

Trish Edwards - Headteacher

Summer term 2016

To be reviewed in Summer term 2018

Reviewed and some small amendments made by Senior Leaders in Spring Term 2018

To be reviewed in Summer Term 2019