

Information for parents

Class teaching and assessment making according to the elementary school curriculum in canton Glarus

Dear parents

The elementary school curriculum in canton Glarus defines how your child can acquire knowledge and skills. On this basis a comprehensive assessment will be made of your child. This assessment which furthers education plays a key role in the learning success of your child.

The teachers follow the curriculum and in accordance plan the lessons and teach.

The teachers regularly monitor the performance of the pupils. The check is based on the learning targets in class. The pupils know the learning targets. Achievements are monitored in different ways:

- observations in class
- statements made by the pupils
- comments on projects and on school work
- achievement in class and in the learning evaluation.

The teaching staff summarise the achievements and they are reflected in the report.

The assessment helps the development and assists the learning process of the pupils.

Comprehensive assessment

The school enables an education in various facets. The pupils acquire in different subjects (German, mathematics, music and others) specific and non-specific skills (independency, team work and others).

As many skills as possible are developed in class. This requires specific tasks.

Good tasks are:

- challenging
- align with the knowledge
- align with the skills
- encouraging independency
- helping to comprehend
- assisting in the work process.

« Success in the learning process is the focus of the comprehensive assessment.»

The assessment is...

... align with the lessons

Every assessment is based on the learning situation in class.

... encouraging

Assessments and feedback encourage your child to learn and progress and indicate the next learning steps.

... explicit

At the annual meeting you will be given information on the learning progress and development of your child.

...comprehensive

Specific and non-specific skills are taken into account in the assessment..

Annual meeting

A meeting between you as parents, your child and the teachers takes place once a year. The observations and assessments are collated at this annual meeting. You discuss together with the teacher and your child the learning and the development status. This requires preparation. Your requests and perceptions are welcome.

Your child receives help from the teacher to prepare for the annual meeting.

In most cases the pupils get through school without any specific measures or vocational decisions having to be taken. If required these can be discussed at the annual meeting and a request be made to the school authorities.

possible measures can be:

- help from the school therapeutic teacher
- lessons in German as a second language (DaZ)
- speech therapy
- psychomotor functional therapy
- correction of the learning targets or dispensation

vocational decisions are classified as :

- allocation to an introductory class or to a smaller class
- class year repetition
- omit a class year
- move to another level in the secondary school 1

Report

The report describes the achievements of your child comprehensively and documents that the annual meeting has taken place.

In the nursery school and in the 1st elementary grade no marks are given in the report. It is rather in the form of a validation of school attendance. From the 2nd grade your child receives a report with marks every year with an assessment of the achievement in a subject.

At secondary school level 1 pupils receive a report twice a year.

From the 5th elementary grade the report includes certain aspects of non-specific skills. This is known as working, learning and social behaviour.

During the school year there are many occasions on which an assessment is made, these may be graded or not.

Your child will bring home some of this information or will talk about it. To establish the marks in the report the teachers use all the available information which is evaluated. This means that marks in the report are not calculated using an arithmetic average of split marks. They are a comprehensive assessment based on the written, oral and practical achievements of the pupils in the corresponding subject.