



As a community, including children, staff, parents and governors, we seek to encourage the faith and educational journey of all our members.

We exist to identify the spiritual, academic, physical and professional needs of the children and staff, enabling them to affirm, support and develop each other in the spirit of Jesus.

We believe especially that our education must be broad and life-changing, enabling all the children to develop to their fullest potential so they may influence both the world of today and the world of tomorrow.

TEACHING AND LEARNING POLICY

OVERVIEW

In this school, every child has an entitlement to benefit from teaching of the highest quality. Creative learning will be encouraged and valued and will be an important part of our ethos. Teachers and learners will be given excellent opportunities to think and behave imaginatively. Originality will be valued. It will result in our learners asking challenging questions, making connections, generating and exploring ideas, developing their thinking, solving problems and reflecting critically on their learning. This policy sets out the criteria that are the expected standard for all our teaching. Teachers will be given professional responsibility to ensure that their teaching meets the standards set out in the Teachers' Standards 2012. The Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team and other key members of staff, will monitor, evaluate and review teaching and learning to ensure that this high standard is met. This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Policy for Performance Management and the school's Policy for Monitoring.

OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure that all pupils benefit from teaching and learning of the highest standard.
2. To provide a basis for monitoring, evaluating, and reviewing teaching and learning.
3. To ensure that all teachers are given feedback on their strengths and areas for development within their teaching and, where necessary, set targets for

improvement.

4. To improve the quality of teaching and learning, improving progress and raising standards.
5. To ensure teaching offers challenge, engagement, independent learning and feedback.
6. To ensure creativity, originality and new ideas are valued, nurtured and encouraged.
7. Learners and teachers will be encouraged to think imaginatively and to develop originality in their work.
8. To encourage, give recognition to, and reward the creativity of learners' and staff.
9. Creativity will be put at the centre of teaching and learning.

STRATEGIES

1. Teachers are expected to base their teaching on secure knowledge of the curriculum guidelines.
2. Teachers are expected to teach effectively the basic skills of the core curriculum.
3. The curriculum guidelines and teachers' lesson plans will be used to offer opportunities for creative learning, creative thinking and creative behaviour.
4. Lesson planning should have clear learning objectives (including WALT and WILF) expressed in the knowledge, skills and understanding that the pupils need to acquire.
5. Teachers should build creative objectives into their planning.
6. Learning objectives should be set to encourage learners to respond creatively and with imagination.
7. A wide range of teaching learning strategies will be used to encourage creativity.
8. Teaching should challenge and inspire pupils of all ability levels.
9. Teachers should set high expectations.
10. Teachers should use an appropriate range of teaching methods to enable all pupils to learn effectively. As a Dyslexia Aware school we ensure inclusion for children if they show dyslexic tendencies. The whole staff have received Dyslexia Awareness training and can recognise dyslexic tendencies. Strategies are in place to support these pupils.
11. Strong features of all teaching should include clear explanation; good use of language; a wide range of questioning; building on prior learning; use of investigations and effective feedback.
12. Lessons should have good pace for teaching and learning.
13. Teachers should manage pupils well.
14. Teachers must apply high standards of behaviour management.
15. Teachers must ensure that time, support staff and other resources, especially ICT, are used effectively to promote good progress and to achieve high standards.
16. Teachers should assess pupils' work thoroughly and use their assessments to help pupils overcome difficulty.
17. Where appropriate, teachers should use homework effectively to reinforce and extend what is learned in school. (See Homework Policy).
18. Within the curriculum good opportunities will be created for learners to use their imagination, and to ask questions, to find original solutions to problems.

19. There will be flexibility in timetables and planning to allow for sustained working and to respond to children's level of engagement and developing interests.
20. Teachers are encouraged to create blocks of time, including full days, weeks and periods of half a term's duration, to facilitate investigations, topics and themes in which creative learning will have significant priority.
21. Dance, drama, music, design, art will be important areas of learning to enable children's creativity to flourish.
22. Visits out of school, and visitors to school will be used to stimulate learners' imagination and extend their creative thinking.
23. Resources, stories, poetry, works of art, fiction, video and the internet will all be used to encourage creativity and creative learning.
24. Cross curricular themes, topics, and centres for learning will be used to encourage learners to make links across the subjects and to see the big picture.

OUTCOMES

This will result in pupils who acquire successfully new knowledge, skills and understanding; apply intellectual, physical or creative effort to their work; are productive and work at good pace; show interest in their work; sustain concentration; and think and learn for themselves. They will also understand what they are doing, how well they have done and how they can improve. Teaching and learning will be exciting and enjoyable. We will use creativity within the curriculum, and in teaching and learning to engage the minds of learners and enable them to develop their imagination and originality. Creativity will be used to promote both excellence and enjoyment and to make the curriculum fun.

D Marsh
Headteacher

Discussed at Teaching & Learning Committee

Reviewed: November 2013
November 2014
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November 2016
November 2017

Next review date: November 2018