

Teaching and Learning Policy

Teaching and Learning Policy Rationale

At Cleeve School Teaching and Learning is at the heart of School Improvement. We recognise the diversity of the needs of the individual, and the importance of meeting these needs within the curriculum.

In order to inspire pupils, we also recognise the importance of developing teachers as learners through their own professional development to ensure that we constantly strive to monitor and review our own practice. Teachers are managers of the environment in which pupils learn and it is therefore vital that teachers know how to build on pupils' skills and prior knowledge in order to enable pupils to fulfil their true potential.

Effective Learning

Effective Learning takes place where pupils:

- Are motivated and challenged by the content of the lesson
- Know their current level of attainment and what they need to do in order to achieve their target grade
- Are supported in all areas of their work
- Perform to and above their expected level of ability
- Evaluate their progress and are keen to take the next steps in their learning
- Are able to work independently and collaboratively
- Take responsibility for their own learning by meeting deadlines and extending their own knowledge
- Feel valued by their peers and teachers
- Take an active interest in their studies through support and encouragement received at home

Effective Teaching

Takes place where teachers make their lessons purposeful by:

- Delivering well planned lessons, which are clearly structured and where appropriate will include a starter and plenary, well paced with smooth transition of tasks, and allow sufficient time for pupil reflection and independent learning
- Making the lesson objectives and aims explicit to pupils at the beginning of the lesson
- Regularly assessing pupils' work and providing clear guidance for improvement, encouraging pupils to evaluate their own progress, following departmental and school policy
- Regularly reviewing and recapping in order to check understanding
- Setting high expectations for behaviour in the classroom and being consistent in the way that they deal with those who do not conform, following departmental and school policy

Takes place where teachers make their lessons interesting and stimulating by:

- Displaying enthusiasm for their subject
- Employing the relevant amount of pace and challenge
- Using relevant and well selected resources
- Using a variety of teaching styles to meet the needs of learners
- Using praise
- Developing positive relationships with pupils

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Takes place where teachers successfully match the content of the lesson to the ability of the pupil by:

- Using prior attainment when planning tasks
- Regularly reviewing the progress of the individual using a variety of measures
- Where possible considering the preferred learning styles of the individual pupil
- Using sufficiently differentiated materials
- Ensuring that Teaching Assistants are effectively deployed and, where possible, involved in the planning of activities

Managing, monitoring and evaluating the Teaching and Learning Policy

All subject teachers will take a collective responsibility to review their own teaching. Heads of Department will regularly review the quality of teaching and learning within their own departments through their self-evaluation cycle and Performance Management, and by making it a feature of departmental meetings and inset time. In addition, they will be responsible for encouraging the continued Professional Development of their team. This in turn will be monitored by the relevant member of the Senior Management Team through oversight.

Review Date: November 2011