



LEARNING AND TEACHING POLICY

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Introduction

At New Scotland Hill Primary School and Nursery, we believe that effective learning is the result of outstanding teaching; this is what we strive for through our engaging and creative curriculum. Our learning and teaching policy aims to ensure that the children at our school are provided with high quality educational experiences that lead to a consistently high level of pupil attainment and progress.

Aims and Objectives

New Scotland Hill Primary School and nursery provides a rich and varied learning environment that allows children to develop their skills and abilities to their full potential.

Through our teaching we aim to:

- provide children with the appropriate skills for life-long learning
- work together to enable children to become confident, resourceful, enquiring and independent learners
- foster children's self-esteem and help them to respect the ideas, attitudes, values and feelings of others
- enable children to understand and feel valued within the school and wider community
- help children grow into reliable, independent, informed and positive citizens for the 21st century

Effective Learning

Effective learning results in children:

- Knowing they have succeeded
- Making links with everyday life
- Recalling prior learning, building on this as they go through school
- Applying their skills and knowledge to different situations
- Developing an understanding of concepts
- Having an enthusiasm to find out more
- Being independent and committed to their own learning
- Becoming resilient when faced with a challenge
- Knowing their next steps for further development

Effective Teaching

We ensure that every teacher meets the 2012 National Teachers' Standards through thorough monitoring of the quality of learning throughout the school. The school's Appraisal Policy details the way in which this is carried out at our school.

Our focus is to motivate the children and build on their skills, knowledge and understanding of the curriculum. Our dynamic curriculum documents reflect current national guidelines and statutory requirements and detail what is to be taught to each year group in each subject.

In every lesson we strive to ensure that:

- all children, regardless of their starting point, have an age-appropriate understanding of what they are learning and why
- adaptations are made to the learning to ensure that every child can access the learning, experience an appropriate level of challenge, and that high expectations ensure there are no ceilings to children's learning
- the teacher has good subject knowledge and high expectations of what all children can achieve
- planning and delivery of the lesson is well organised, purposeful and motivates the children to learn and progress
- effective questioning helps children to think and extend their learning
- staff are effectively deployed to support the children's learning

The Learning Environment

At New Scotland Hill, learning takes place in an environment which is:

- safe, happy and welcoming
- encouraging and supportive
- inclusive and respectful of differences
- reflective of our children and community
- challenging and stimulating
- conducive to learning
- well-resourced and organised

Partnership with Parents

At New Scotland Hill, we believe that parents have the responsibility to foster a positive culture for learning with their children and support them and the school in implementing school policies. Parents have a fundamental role to play in helping children to learn. Our school ensures that we inform parents about how their children are progressing by:

- holding parents' evenings in the Autumn and Spring Terms to discuss personal and social development, and academic attainment, progress and next steps
- holding curriculum workshops (as appropriate) to demonstrate the way aspects of the curriculum are taught
- sharing curriculum information with parents via the school's website and newsletters
- providing annual reports in the Summer Term
- providing ideas for parents to support learning at home as set out in the home/school agreement

Accountability

Our governors act as critical friends to the Headteacher to determine, support, monitor and review the school policy on learning and teaching. In particular they:

- support the use of appropriate teaching strategies through creative resource management
- ensure that the school buildings and premises are best used to support successful teaching and learning
- monitor learning and teaching environments in the light of health and safety regulations
- monitor the effectiveness of teaching and learning strategies in terms of raising pupil attainment and progress
- ensure that staff development and the Appraisal Policy promotes good quality learning and teaching
- monitor the effectiveness of the school's teaching and learning policy through the school self-review processes.

Review

We are aware of the need to review the school learning and teaching policy regularly so that we can take account of new initiatives, changes in the curriculum, developments in technology or changes to the physical environment of the school. This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Appraisal Policy
- Feedback and Marking Policy
- Inclusion Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Homework Policy
- Display guidelines
- Curriculum statements
- Whole school curriculum mapping

