



Hadley Wood School Learning and Teaching Policy November 2018

Our Learning and Teaching Policy is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for teaching and learning at Hadley Wood School. It lays the foundations for our delivery of the whole curriculum, both formal and informal and forms the context in which all other policy statements should be read.

To create confident, capable and caring children, our **Aims** for Learning and Teaching are:

- To ensure that children attain skills and knowledge that will equip them for life
- To personalise learning and foster independence and responsibility in our learners
- To ensure that our teaching does not limit the children's learning
- To equip the children with the skills they need to fulfil their creativity

1. Our Learning Ethos



Teachers, pupils and parents work together in strong partnership towards the school's aims, vision, values and ethos (see vision statement). The sharing of the Home-school agreement reinforces this partnership between home and school and provides a common vision, values and ethos for all. This in turn impacts positively on learning and teaching.

We employ a rigorous selection process when appointing teachers and have confidence in trusting them to make professional decisions when choosing a suitable teaching method for each lesson, whether this be agile learning (children being taught at their own level, rather than sitting through an teaching session which is inappropriate to their prior learning) group work or whole class input. We acknowledge that pupils have a variety of prior knowledge and will learn at different paces. We encourage our more experienced teachers to share their skills and knowledge with other staff.

To secure effective learning we will commit to:

- providing a safe, enabling environment in which all children can learn and all staff are prepared to identify children who may benefit from early help (KCSIE 2018)
- ensuring all children are fully aware of behavioural expectations (see behaviour policy)
- raising any concerns about a child's welfare immediately with the school DSL (KCSIE 2018)
- respecting children as individuals within their own rights, values and beliefs;
- giving the children a common language with which to discuss their values
- allowing children to make mistakes from which they can learn in a safe environment, so that they develop resilience
- giving all children the opportunity to experience success, so that they develop self-confidence
- enhancing the children's independence in and mastery of their learning and enabling them to take responsibility for all aspects of their schooling
- ensuring that children have opportunities to be aware of and interact with current issues and debates.

2. Strategies for Effective Learning

In order for our curriculum to lead to effective and creative learning and teaching, the approaches in school need to be founded on the following principles:

- children to take control of their own learning and develop a love of learning
- providing a wealth of opportunities for children to be engaged and challenged by a relevant and purposeful curriculum
- children are encouraged to communicate their findings in a variety of ways (this is particularly important for children with additional needs, such as dyslexia)
- opportunities are provided for children to become involved in decision making
- children understand how to be masterful learners and have the relevant skills to achieve, drawing on the school values to help them
- expectations are high and children are actively involved in setting and reviewing their own targets, through discussion with adults and their peers
- children are encouraged to continue their learning outside of school through homework, trips and a variety of off-site learning opportunities

3. Strategies for Effective Teaching

Teachers plan inspiring, relevant and appropriate learning experiences taking into account the diversity of children in their care.

- teachers make sure they are aware of the children's knowledge and skill levels so that work is personalised in a way that ensures each pupil has the opportunity to reach his/her full potential (see SEN policy)
- teachers ensure learning is explicitly shared so children are clear on the learning taking place in each lesson. Learning objectives and success criteria are used by teachers and pupils to assess their learning
- teachers maintain flexibility and spontaneity in their approach
- learning environments are structured so that children can access learning materials independently, promoting the school values effectively to become confident, capable and caring as described in our vision statement

- children are given relevant feedback which may take the form of: developmental marking to which they respond; peer marking and self-marking (see marking policy)
- regular staff meetings are used to discuss various aspects of the curriculum and ensure consistency of approach and standards, aligned with our school values
- subject leaders ensure that they stay abreast of new initiatives and regularly feedback to staff
- subject leaders ensure that the children's skill set is developed over the years in foundation as well as core subjects
- teachers regularly evaluate their own teaching and reflect upon their practice
- teachers share medium term plans (curriculum booklets on the web page) with the parents and the wider public
- teachers share children's progress with parents informally and formally through parent meetings and a written report
- all staff espouse the school values and will act as role models for the pupils

The role of the Head Teacher, Senior Management Team and Governing Body is to:

- support the use of appropriate teaching strategies by allocating resources effectively
- monitor how effective teaching and learning strategies are in terms of raising pupil attainment
- ensure that staff development and performance management policies promote first class quality teaching

Other reference documents

Anti-Bullying Policy
 Appraisal and Capability Policy
 Assessment Policy
 Collective Act of Worship Policy
 e-safety Policy
 Early Years Policy
 Educational Visits Policy
 Literacy Policy
 Marking Policy
 Maths Policy
 Physical Education Policy
 Positive Behaviour Policy
 Progression in Calculation
 PSHE / Citizenship Education Policy
 RE Policy
 Inclusion (SEN, A&G, EAL) Policies
 Equal Opportunities
 National Curriculum

Date: 29.11.18

Next Review date: September 2020 (Or sooner if deemed necessary)