

Introduction

Our teaching and learning policy is the foundation of all we do in at St Lucia's CE Primary School. It is a set of agreed practices and strategies which contribute to the continuity of children's learning and reflects our vision, aims and values. We believe in the concept of life long learning as a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone. Through our teaching, we aim to equip children with the skills, knowledge, concepts and attitudes necessary to be able to make informed choices about important things in their lives. We strive to offer the very best educational teaching and learning experiences for all our children.

Mission Statement

'Working together - Learning for life.'

Through our teaching and Learning we aim to:

- Foster Christian values, including caring, tolerance, respect and forgiveness within our school community and beyond.
- Enable our children to become confident, responsible, independent and highly motivated individuals.
- Provide children with the knowledge, skills and attitude to strive for academic excellence.
- Support and challenge members of our school community to achieve their full potential.
- Promote equal opportunities to all

Effective Learning

We recognise that people learn in many different ways. St Lucia's CE Primary School, we understand the need to develop strategies that allow all children to develop their skills and abilities to reach their full potential. Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and to be involved as far as possible in reviewing the ways they learn. Children are also encouraged to reflect on how they learn -what helps them learn and what makes it difficult for them to learn. We also provide allocated time for children to consider what they need to do next in their learning.

'Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.'

Benjamin Franklin

Effective Teaching and Learning Practitioners will:

- Enjoy teaching
- Model themselves as learners
- Inspire children
- Have good subject knowledge
- Plan consistently, collaboratively and effectively with other members of staff
- Plan for investigative and problem solving work
- Give clear objectives and success criteria
- Identify and differentiate work effectively for all children
- Match teaching styles to learning needs
- Use the language of learning

Practitioners will:

- Use open ended questioning to support and extend learning
- Use assessment data to inform future planning
- Have positive relationships with children and each other based on mutual respect
- Apply the school's marking policy and include close the gap and next step marking comments
- Maintain a calm and positive learning environment
- Support, motivate and encourage children in their learning through regular use of praise
- Use consistent positive behaviour management strategies
- Effective use of Teaching Assistants support pupils' learning
- Value and promote equality and inclusion
- Reflect on individual strengths and areas to improve teaching through planned professional development opportunities.

Effective Teaching and Learning is characterised by lessons where:

- There is a 'buzz' and sense of purpose
- There are strong, creative and exciting stimuli
- The learning outcome is made explicit
- Creative and physical activities are used to promote learning
- Children can access 'outside learning' or participate in educational visits or have visitors in school
- There are opportunities for children to work with the whole class, with partners, in groups or independently
- Activities are differentiated to support and challenge children appropriately
- A wide range of ICT is used to enhance learning
- There are opportunities for children to reflect on and demonstrate their learning
- Questions and mistakes are promoted as an important part of the learning journey
- The Teacher and Teaching Assistant are directly involved in working with the children for the majority of the time
- Children have purposeful and productive tasks which create a sense of ownership for their learning
- Assessment for learning is an essential, integral part of the teaching and learning
- All pupils make good progress through each lesson

For Teaching and Learning to be Effective, children will show:

- Enthusiasm, engagement and enjoyment of learning
- Confidence working as a whole-class, in groups, with a partner and independently
- They refer to themselves as learners
- Strategies can be used and developed to support their own learning
- Confidence as learners and are willing and able to learn from mistakes without fear of failure
- What is expected of them with regard to their work and behaviour
- Respect towards the staff and peers in school
- Pride in their work and school
- A display of self-confidence and a positive self image
- How to access and use resources to support their own learning
- An awareness of the purpose of learning and how to succeed
- A strong set of transferable skills to provide a firm foundation upon which to build their life long learning

The Role of Governors

Governors at St Lucia's CE Primary School and Nursery determine, support, monitor and review the school policies on teaching and learning.

In particular they:

- Support the use of appropriate teaching strategies by allocating resources effectively
- Ensure that the school buildings and premises are best used to support successful teaching and learning
- Monitor teaching strategies in light of health and safety regulations
- Monitor how effective teaching and learning strategies are in term of raising pupil attainment and progress
- Ensure that staff development and performance management policies promote good quality teaching
- Monitor the effectiveness of the school's teaching and learning through the curriculum committee meetings and governor link visits; reviews of the school improvement plan and school self evaluation processes and subject reviews from subject coordinators
- Offer challenge to ensure 'value for money'

The Role of Parents and Carers

We believe that parents have a fundamental role to play in helping children to learn. As a school, we will inform parents about the content of learning in a variety of ways:

- Sending information to parents at the start of each term to outline topics that the children will be studying
- Holding parents' evenings to report on each child's progress
- Arrange open afternoons/evenings to provide parents with information in helping them to support their children at home.
- Sending annual reports to parents where levels of attainment and progress are shared and indications on how the child can improve further are included

We also feel that parents have the responsibility to support their children and the school in order for children to learn effectively.

We would like parents to:

- Ensure that their child has the best attendance record possible
- Do their best to keep their child clean and healthy to attend school
- Make sure that their child is equipped for school with the correct uniform and PE kit
- Promote a positive attitude towards school and learning in general
- Inform staff if there are any matters outside of school that are likely to affect a child's performance or behaviour at school
- Fulfil the requirements set out in the home/school agreement

Policy adopted by: The curriculum committee of governors November 2013

Policy Reviewed: April 2020

Next Review: April 2021