



Parrett and Axe CEVA Primary School

Teaching and Learning Policy

1 Introduction

At Parrett and Axe School we believe in the concept of lifelong learning and the idea that both adults and children learn new things every day. We maintain that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone; it should be fun. Through our teaching we equip children with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives. We believe that appropriate teaching and learning experiences help children to lead happy and rewarding lives.

2 Aims and objectives

2.1 We believe that people learn best in different ways. At our school we provide a rich and varied learning environment that allows children to develop their skills and abilities to their full potential.

2.2 Through our teaching we aim to:

- enable children to become confident, resourceful, enquiring and independent learners;
- foster children's self-esteem and help them build positive relationships with other people;
- develop children's self-respect and encourage children to respect the ideas, attitudes, values and feelings of others;
- show respect for all cultures and, in so doing, to promote positive attitudes towards other people;
- enable children to understand their community and help them feel valued as part of this community;
- help children grow into reliable, independent and positive citizens.

3 Effective learning

3.1 We offer opportunities for children to learn in different ways. These include:

- investigation and problem solving;

- research and finding out;
- group work;
- pair work;
- independent work;
- whole-class work;
- asking and answering questions;
- use of the computer;
- fieldwork and visits to places of educational interest;
- creative activities;
- debates, role-plays and oral presentations;
- designing and making things;
- participation in athletic or physical activity;
- using a range of audio-visual aids.

3.2 We encourage children to take responsibility for their own learning, to be involved as far as possible in reviewing the way they learn, and to reflect on how they learn – what helps them learn and what makes it difficult for them to learn.

4 Effective teaching

4.1 When teaching we focus on motivating the children and building on their skills, knowledge and understanding of the curriculum. We use the school curriculum plan to guide our teaching. This sets out the aims, objectives and values of the school and details what is to be taught to each year group.

4.2 We base our teaching on our knowledge of the children's level of attainment. Our prime focus is to develop further the knowledge and skills of the children. We strive to ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to each child's level of ability. When planning work for children with special educational needs we give due regard to information and targets contained in the children's Individual Progress Plans (IEPs). We have high expectations of all children, and we believe that their work here at Parrett and Axe School is of the highest possible standard.

- 4.3** We set academic targets for the children in each academic year and we share these targets with children and their parents. We review the progress of each child at the end of the academic year and set revised targets.
- 4.4** We plan our lessons with clear learning objectives. We base these objectives on the Foundation Stage Curriculum, the National Curriculum 2014. Our lesson plans generally contain information about the tasks to be set, the resources needed, and the way we assess the children's work. We evaluate all lessons so that we can modify and improve our teaching in the future.
- 4.5** Each of our teachers makes a special effort to establish good working relationships with all children in the class. We treat the children with kindness and respect. We treat them fairly and give them equal opportunity to take part in class activities. All our teachers follow the school policy with regard to behaviour. We set and agree with children the class code of conduct. We praise children for their efforts and, by so doing, we help to build positive attitudes towards school and learning.
- 4.6** We ensure that all planned tasks and activities that the children do are safe. When we plan to take children out of school, we first inform parents and obtain their permission.
- 4.7** We deploy teaching assistants and other adult helpers as effectively as possible. Sometimes they work with individual children and sometimes they work with small groups. Our adult helpers also assist with the preparation and storage of classroom equipment.
- 4.8** Our classrooms are attractive learning environments. We change displays regularly to ensure that the classroom reflects the topics studied by the children. We ensure that children have the opportunity to display their best work at some time during the year. We believe that a stimulating environment sets the climate for learning, and an exciting classroom promotes independent use of resources and high-quality work by the children.
- 4.9** All staff are supported in developing their skills through the schools Continuous Professional Development (CPD) programme so that they can continually improve their practice.
- 4.10** In our teaching we encourage an atmosphere of trust and respect for all.

5 The role of governors

5.1 Our governors 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 the light of health and safety regulations;
- monitor how effective teaching and learning strategies are in terms of raising pupil attainment;
- ensure that the performance management policy promotes good quality teaching;
- monitor the effectiveness of the school's teaching and learning policy through the school self-review processes. These include reports from subject leaders and the termly headteacher's report to governors as well as a review of the in-service training sessions attended by our staff.

6 The role of parents

6.1 Parents have a fundamental role to play in helping children to learn. We do all we can to inform parents about what and how their children are learning by:

- sending information to parents at the start of each term in which we outline the topics that the children will be studying during that term at school;
- sending regular reports to parents in which we explain the progress made by each child and indicate how the child can improve further;
- explaining to parents how they can support their children with homework. We suggest, for example, regular shared reading with very young children, and support with spelling throughout the school.
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6.2 We believe that parents have the responsibility to support their children and the school in implementing school policies. We would expect parents to:

- ensure that their child attends school regularly;
- ensure that their child is equipped for school with the correct uniform and PE kit;
- inform school if there are matters outside of school that are likely to affect a child's performance or behaviour at school;

- promote a positive attitude towards school and learning in general;
- support the home/school agreement.

7 Monitoring and review

We are aware of the need to review the school teaching and learning 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.

Approved 29 September 2021

Date to be reviewed September 2023