



Teaching and Learning Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 At Snettisham Primary School we believe in the concept of lifelong learning, and in the idea that both adults and children learn new things every day. We value the depth and breadth of the curriculum that we provide. We aim to foster creativity in our children, and to help them become independent learners. Above all we believe in making learning relevant, effective and enjoyable. 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 Values

2.1 We seek the highest standards of attainment and aspiration for all our children. Our school curriculum is underpinned by the values that we hold dear at our school. **‘Learning Together, Succeeding Together’**.

2.2 Our school is in full agreement with the aims stated in the introduction to the National Curriculum 2014 framework document for Primary Teachers in England, ‘to introduce pupils to the best that has been thought and said; and help engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.’

In order to achieve this:

- We actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- We value children’s uniqueness, we listen to the views of individual children, and we promote respect for diverse cultures.
- We value the spiritual and moral development of each person, as well as their intellectual and physical growth.
- We value the importance of each person in our community, and we organise our curriculum to promote inclusion, cooperation and understanding among all members of our community.
- We value the rights enjoyed by each person in our society. We respect each child in our school for who they are, and we treat them with fairness and honesty. We want to enable each person to be successful, and we provide equal opportunities for all our pupils.
- We will strive to meet the needs of all our children, and to ensure that we meet all statutory requirements regarding inclusion.
- We value our environment, and we want to teach our pupils, through our curriculum, how we should take care of the world, not only for ourselves, but also for future generations.

2 Aims

2.1 We believe that people learn best in different ways. At our school we provide a rich and varied learning environment that allows all 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 to build positive relationships with other people;
- develop children's self-respect, encourage them to understand the ideas, attitudes and values of others, and teach them to respect other people's feelings;
- show respect for a diverse range of cultures and, in so doing, to promote positive attitudes towards other people, locally, nationally and globally;
- enable children to understand their community, and help them feel valued as part of it;
- help children grow into reliable, independent and positive citizens.

3 Effective learning

3.1 Research tells us a lot about how to maximise learning. We know that people learn in many different ways, and respond best to different types of input (visual, auditory and kinaesthetic); we must therefore deliver teaching in different ways to address the needs of all our learners. We take into account the different forms of intelligence (for example, mathematical/logical, visual/spatial, interpersonal) when planning our teaching.

3.2.1 We ensure the best possible environment for learning by developing a positive atmosphere where pupils feel safe and feel they belong, where they enjoy being challenged, but where they enjoy learning, and know that they will succeed (because they know the challenge will have been set at the right level).

3.3 Concerning the structure of a lesson, learning-theory tells us:

- to connect the learning with previous work;
- to give learners the 'big picture' of the whole lesson;
- to explain the learning objectives, and why the lesson is important;
- to present the information in a range of styles;
- to allow opportunities for the pupils to build up their own understanding through various activities;
- to review what has been learnt, and so increase recollection;
- to provide feedback, celebrating success and reviewing learning strategies;
- to outline the next step in the learning before moving on.

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

- investigation and problem-solving;
- research and discovery;
- group work;
- pair work;
- independent work;
- whole-class work;
- asking and answering questions;
- use of ICT;
- fieldwork and visits to places of educational interest;
- creative activities;

- using a range of multimedia material;
- debates, role-plays and oral presentations;
- designing and making things;
- participation in athletic or physical activity.
- Availability of resources to aid independent learning

3.5 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 we are teaching we focus on motivating all the children, and building on their skills, knowledge and understanding of the curriculum, so that they reach the highest level of personal achievement. We use the national curriculum framework and programmes of study (2014) to guide our teaching, outlining key skills, knowledge and objectives to be covered.

4.2 Teachers make ongoing assessments of each child's progress, and they use this information when planning their lessons. It enables them to take into account the abilities of all their children. Our prime focus is to develop further the knowledge and skills of all our 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 Education, Health and Care plans and where appropriate 'Overcoming Barriers to Learning' Plans. Teachers modify teaching and learning as appropriate for children with disabilities. We value each child as a unique individual, and teachers are familiar with the relevant equal opportunities legislation. We will strive to meet the needs of all our children, and to ensure that we meet all statutory requirements related to matters of inclusion.

4.3 We set academic targets for the children in each year, and we share these targets with children and their parents. We review the progress of each child throughout the academic year, and set revised targets as appropriate.

4.4 We plan our lessons with clear learning objectives. We take these objectives from the National Curriculum 2014. We use 'Non – negotiables for learning' (Focus on Education) to monitor progress of pupils in specific year groups) We use 'Weaving The Curriculum' to ensure progress and coverage. Our lesson plans contain information about the tasks to be set, the resources needed, and the way we assess the children's work. Evaluation of lessons is ongoing, so that we can modify and improve our future teaching. We plan topic themes together to ensure progression and recording of progress across the key stage for all foundation subjects .

4.5 Each of our teachers makes a special effort to establish good working relationships with all the children in the class. We treat the children with kindness and respect. We recognise that they are all individuals with different needs, but 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 discipline and classroom management. We set and agree with children the class code of conduct, and we expect all children to comply with the rules that we jointly devise to promote the best learning opportunities for all. We praise children for their efforts and, by so doing, we help to build positive attitudes towards school

and learning in general. We insist on good order and behaviour at all times. When children misbehave we follow the guidelines for sanctions as outlined in our policy on behaviour.

- 4.6** We try to ensure that all tasks and activities that the children perform are safe. When we plan to take children out of school, we follow a strict set of procedures to ensure safety: the venue is visited if possible, risk assessments are completed, and various permissions are obtained. We inform parents, and obtain their permission, before the visit takes place.
- 4.7** We use our specific funding (Pupil Premium) to support pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds. We employ qualified teachers to work with identified small groups (no more than four where progress is not as expected). We deploy learning 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. Progress is closely monitored to ensure that interventions are successful.
- 4.8** We use a 'non- negotiable' checklist for the learning environment each term to ensure that we provide attractive learning environments. Display is of a high quality in all areas of the school. We ensure that all children have the opportunity to display their best work at some time during the year. All classrooms have access to a range of dictionaries and of both fiction and non-fiction books, as well as displays relating to English and Maths. We also use displays as learning prompts for the children. We believe that a stimulating environment sets the climate for learning, and that an exciting classroom promotes independent use of resources, which results in high-quality work by the children.
- 4.9** All our teachers reflect on their strengths and weaknesses, and plan their professional development accordingly. We do all we can to support our teachers in developing their skills, so that they can continually improve their practice.
- 4.10** We conduct all our teaching in an atmosphere of trust and respect for all.

5 The role of governors

- 5.1** Our governors determine, support, monitor and review the school's approach to 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 used optimally to support teaching and learning;
 - check teaching methods in the light of health and safety regulations;
 - seek to ensure that our staff development and our performance management both promote good quality teaching;
 - monitor the effectiveness of the school's teaching and learning approaches through the school's self-review processes, which include reports from

subject leaders, learning walks the termly headteacher's report to governors, and a review of the in-service training sessions attended by staff.

6 The role of parents

6.1 We believe that 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 holding parents' evenings to explain our school strategies for literacy, numeracy and health education;
- negotiating 'Overcoming Barriers to Learning' plans for SEN pupils at Stage 3 and above of the SEN Code.
- by sending information to parents, at the start of each term, which outlines the topics that the children will be studying during that term at school;
- by sending parents regular reports 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, and suggesting, for example, regular shared reading, and support for projects and investigative work.
- Holding a parents' assembly at the end of each term to celebrate their child's learning journey as well as other open events where learning can be shared.

6.2 We believe that parents have the responsibility to support their children and the school in implementing school policies. We would therefore like parents:

- to ensure that their child has the best attendance record possible;
- to ensure that their child is equipped for school with the correct uniform and PE kit;
- to do their best to keep their child healthy and fit to attend school;
- to inform school if there are matters outside of school that are likely to affect a child's performance or behaviour;
- to promote a positive attitude towards school and learning in general;
- to fulfil the requirements set out in the home-school agreement,

7 Monitoring and review

7.1 We are aware of the need to monitor the school's teaching and learning policy, and to review it regularly, so that we can take account of new initiatives and research, changes in the curriculum, developments in technology or changes to the physical environment of the school. We will therefore review this policy every two years, or earlier if necessary.

Signed:

Date: