



PEWITHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

TEACHING & LEARNING POLICY

Please note that this school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

At Pewithall Primary School, we believe that learning should be a lifelong process and a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone. Through our teaching, we focus on inspiring the children to learn, equipping them with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be autonomous learners who reach their full potential. We believe that appropriate teaching and learning experiences contribute to children becoming successful learners, who lead rewarding lives as responsible citizens.

Principles

- To develop a community of learners where learning is valued, enjoyed, supportive and lifelong.
- To enable children to become confident, resourceful, enquiring and independent learners.
- Develop children's self-respect and encourage children to respect the ideas, attitudes, values and feelings of others regardless of race and culture.
- To encourage children to take pride in their work and the work of others.
- Pupils speak and talk regularly about their learning in order for them to consolidate and share their experiences.

All of the above is modelled by all adults in and out of school.

Learning Culture

- Feel safe – respect, value and support for each other as learners.
- Take educational risks to improve outcomes.
- Recognise mistakes and errors as a learning opportunity.
- High expectations – learning behaviour, progress in learning, presentation etc 'Can do' attitude.
- Adults establish positive working relationships with all children in the class. All adults model learning and expected behaviour for the children.
- Children are treated fairly and with kindness and respect with encouragement, praise and rewards for all.



- Adopt inclusive practises so all pupils have equal access to their education.

NB: The above need to be actively taught and quickly established (in September), then further developed and reinforced, throughout the year, involving the children at every stage.

Effective Learning

People learn in different ways. Learning opportunities should incorporate a range of strategies in order to engage children in learning and meet the needs of all learners. These could include:

- investigation and problem solving, research, whole-class work.
- group work (in groups selected for different reasons), paired work, individual work.
- independent work, which is child directed.
- collaborative work.
- selecting and using relevant resources to support learning, asking and answering questions.
- use of technology and computer science including visual images, film, interactive teaching resources etc. fieldwork and visits to places of educational interest.
- guest visitors and performances, creative activities.
- debates, discussions, oral presentations and other speaking and listening strategies, drama techniques, designing and making things.
- participation in athletic or physical activity.
- Setting challenges for themselves.
- Children should be taught to take responsibility for their own learning; to review the way they learn and how they learn and how to overcome challenges in their learning.

Effective Teaching

Assessment for learning will be evident in planning and lessons to ensure lessons are well paced and all pupils make progress in learning.

Learning Objectives

- clear and focused based on learning rather than task displayed discussed and explained to the children.
- based on prior attainment, knowledge and understanding.

Success Criteria

- break down the learning taking place.



- include the steps or 'ingredients' the children need to be successful in their learning.
- are identified by the teacher during the planning process.
- are usually generated with the children during the lesson.
- are written up and referred to during the lesson.
- Plenary.
- Planned times during and at the end of the lesson.
- Reviews progress towards learning objective and success criteria.
- Allows adults and children to address misconceptions, make improvements and add further challenge.
- Learning may be applied to different contexts.
- Time to reflect on the 'how' of learning in addition to 'what' has been learnt.

Outcome

- what will be achieved by the children by the end of the lesson
- the learning activity/evidence of learning
- sufficient time given to enable children to achieve meaningful learning
- differentiated according to the levels at which the children are working
- Differentiation
- Takes place throughout the lesson
- Is matched to children's levels and next steps learning
- When planning work for children with Special Educational Needs, information and targets contained in the children's Individual Education Plans (I.E.P.s) are addressed
- May occur through adult support; range and level of resources; time; task; different outcomes

Adult Input

- Engages children in the learning.
- Is active and interactive.
- Has appropriate pace to ensure maximum learning takes place.
- Responds to and is adapted to ongoing assessment during the lesson.
- Clearly models successful learning/the learning activity.
- Generates success criteria.
- Is flexible according to the learning taking place.
- Different inputs for different groups.
- Different start times for different groups.
- Input – activity – input – activity.
- Guided groups.



Questioning

- Questions will be asked to assess learning, challenge and deepen thinking and understanding.
- The range will include open/closed; higher and lower order (eg. Bloom's Taxonomy)
- Will be differentiated.
- Opportunities will be planned for children to develop their own questions and questioning.

Feedback & Marking

- Regular feedback will be given to the children, this does not need to be written. VF (Verbal Feedback) can be written in books if the teacher/ teaching assistant has spoken to the pupil in the lesson about possible improvements.
- Identifies success and areas for improvement/next steps learning
- Refers to learning objectives, success criteria, children's individual targets and level related spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Opportunities are planned for children to regularly respond to feedback and marking.

Self & Peer Assessment

- Children are trained to self and peer assess
- Guidelines are discussed, agreed and developed with the children
- Is used regularly to enable children to address misconceptions and make improvements to their work

Targets

- children are involved in setting and reviewing their targets
- easily accessible and referred to regularly are related to children's levels of attainment and next steps learning.
- are set for writing, reading and maths.

Active Learning

- Children are given opportunities to be involved in the learning throughout the lesson.
- A range of strategies are used.
- There is an appropriate balance of adult/pupil talk.

Opportunities are planned to enable children to develop and apply their skills, knowledge and understanding across the curriculum.



Learning Environment

- A stimulating environment sets the climate for learning, an exciting, well-organised classroom promotes independent use of resources and supports high quality learning
- Teachers and children work together to establish an attractive welcoming and well organised environment developing respect, care and value for all resources.
- Classrooms should be bright and tidy, and should be word and number rich.

Displays might be used to:

- Celebrate success - achievement, Star/Learner of the Day/Week.
- Support class organisation – visual timetables, clearly labelled resources, promote independence by providing prompts – questions, support for when children are stuck.
- Support learning – working walls, presentation examples, interactive & challenging.
- Displays are changed regularly and reflect the current topic/themes/ learning.

Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistants and other adult helpers are deployed throughout school to support learning as effectively as possible. Whilst pupils are in school, teaching assistants should be working with pupils and not undertaking clerical or secretarial duties.

They are involved in:

- Supporting learning and children's progress supporting assessments of children's understanding developing children's independence.

Volunteer helpers, mainly parents, are directed by teachers to assist in some classrooms with general tasks: listening to readers, assisting on outings and in providing other help, such as ICT expertise.

The Role of Curriculum Leaders

- To know standards in their subjects and promote high standards by innovating and motivating staff members and pupils.
- Monitor progress and attainment in subject areas and action plan to address areas of need in each year group as well as end of key stage.



- Support colleagues to develop practice and subject knowledge to maximise progress, take the lead in policy development.
- Have responsibility for purchase and organisation of resources.
- Keep up to date with developments in their particular subject area
- Are responsible for sharing this with colleagues.

Role of Parents

Parents have a fundamental role to play in helping children to learn. They are informed about what and how their children are learning by:

- holding regular consultation evenings in which the progress made by each child, and his/her next steps learning, are explained and discussed
- sending an annual report to parents explaining the progress made by their child and indicating areas for improvement; explaining to parents how they can support their children with homework; holding parent workshops to explain the work covered and the strategies and methods taught to the children.
- A curriculum meeting in September.
- Providing information to parents at the start of each term via the website in which we outline the learning areas and topics that the children will be covering that term; keeping parents informed of a pupil's progress on a more regular basis if appropriate.

Role of Governors

Governors 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 staff development and performance management policies promote good quality teaching; monitor the effectiveness of the school's teaching and learning policies through the school's self-evaluation processes. These may include reports from subject leaders and the termly Head teacher's report to governors, as well as a review of the in-service training sessions attended by our staff.



English Curriculum Implementation

At Pewithall Primary School we believe that English is vital in enabling our pupils to communicate effectively and access all curriculum areas. We have a creative, focused and structured approach to our English curriculum.


We follow The Literacy Company's 'Pathways to Write' which develops vocabulary and writing skills through a mastery approach. Reading is taught through weekly differentiated guided reading sessions, opportunities for individual readers and reading age/phonics level appropriate reading books are sent home three times a week. Grammar, punctuation and spelling is taught both thematically and discretely as is most appropriate. Synthetic phonics is taught from EYFS to the end of KS1 and beyond where necessary using Supersonic Phonics Friends programme of progression.


The development of these English skills are key to ensuring that pupils can access the whole curriculum effectively, allowing our children to achieve their full potential.

Monitoring & Evaluation

This policy will be used to support the monitoring of teaching and learning throughout school. It will be regularly reviewed with staff and will be discussed with new staff working in school.

Policy reviewed: May 2024
Policy minuted: June 2024
Date to be reviewed: June 2026

Signed:  Headteacher
Date:


Signed: Chair of Governors
Date: