

Teaching and Learning at Valley Invicta Primary School at Kings Hill

We aspire for all our children to become confident, happy and caring individuals who achieve personal success and develop a love of learning and a life built upon our school values.

Here at Valley Invicta Primary at Kings Hill our Rights Respecting culture and values to empower, connect and inspire are at the heart of our teaching and learning philosophy.

Our core purpose is to ensure that all children aspire to excellence, and build a strong and keen love of learning which enables each individual to succeed and be exceptionally well prepared for the next stage in their education.

In order to do this, every child must have learning opportunities where they are challenged to achieve their very best.

Our teachers have regular high quality professional development. They study how children learn, and the how to incorporate effective strategies that encourage the children to think deeply, learn through challenge and also how to enable pupils to be as independent as possible.

We instil positive attitudes and high expectations towards learning, and find that these are fundamental for success.

Our learning focuses on each individual, so that every child can:

- feel physically and emotionally safe and happy
- behave well and exemplify the 'rights-respecting' ethos of our school
- know where they are in their own learning and what they need to do next to close the gap
- see continuity and progression in their own learning
- are confident, responsive, motivated and aim to achieve high standards
- show interest in their work, use initiative, pose questions, solve problems and confidently select and use resources
- form constructive relationships and are able to work independently, co-operatively and collaboratively in different learning groups and situations, in and beyond the school
- work in a well organised and tidy classroom, that stimulates and celebrates success
- sustain concentration and stay on task to complete the activity set
- respond to challenges with enthusiasm and are prepared to take risks
- make connections and build upon previously acquired knowledge in new situations across all subject areas
- be willing to take responsibility for their own learning
- have the freedom to use research to stretch themselves beyond planning
- communicate ideas and information in a variety of forms

- evaluate and assess their own work and that of others
- prepare for their lessons e.g. having correct equipment/ appropriate clothing
- respond appropriately to homework
- receive appropriate support from home

When judging the quality of teaching we consider how well teaching promotes learning, independence, progress and enjoyment and how well assessment is used to meet the needs of all pupils.

In teaching we use our collective expertise and strive to:

- set high expectations to challenge ALL pupils
- have good relationships with pupils and provide opportunities for them all to contribute their ideas, knowing that adults listen carefully to them
- use assessment formatively to ascertain where each child is at and to inform next steps
- adapt lessons and plan appropriately with clear differentiation, ensuring an appropriate level of challenge or support for every ability group meeting the needs of all children
- use AfL (Assessment for Learning) strategies effectively including providing children with quality feedback (written and verbal) in line with our marking and feedback statement
- make learning questions and success criteria clear
- allow children to have ample opportunity to practise and apply new skills
- make links to previous learning experiences
- effectively deploy and communicate with teaching assistants
- put appropriate interventions in place to ensure all children are making good progress and achieving extremely well when compared to national expectations
- ensure opportunities for pupils to develop independence
- maintain an appropriate structure and teaching pace in lessons
- ensure lesson content is relevant, creative and enthuses the children
- have excellent subject knowledge and are able to inspire and build understanding
- use homework effectively, to reinforce and/or extend what is learnt in lessons
- provide positive praise and encouragement to raise self-esteem
- give children time to reflect on their own learning
- ensure an appropriate amount of time is spent on each curriculum subject therefore meeting the needs of the children
- manage pupils well and achieve high standards of behaviour
- take into consideration family culture and experience, circumstances and emotional needs of the children in order to provide appropriate pastoral support
- take responsibility for keeping up to date with new developments in Learning and Teaching research
- are excellent role models and maintain high a high level of professionalism at all times
- use our local area and expertise to inspire learning.