



St Mark's C.E. Primary School

Principles of high-quality teaching and learning

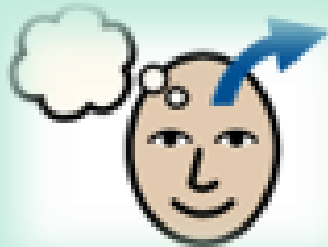
Lesson design

1 Connect to prior learning

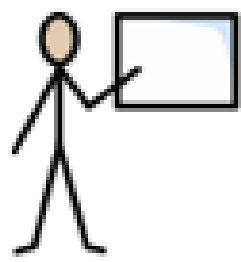
Begin each lesson by re-visiting or retrieving prior learning.

How? - Low-stakes quizzing, visual prompts and recap questions.

Why? - Activating prior learning helps to reduce cognitive load and supports schema building.



2 Set clear learning intentions and success criteria

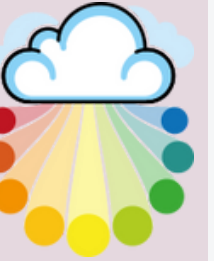


Display and refer to clear learning objectives and signs of success.

How? - Model excellence via WAGOLLS.

Why? - Clarity improves focus and outcomes. Children know what success looks like.

3 Explicit vocabulary instruction



Pre-teach and display key vocabulary using Widgeo software.

How? - Encourage oracy and discussion to internalise terms. Make vocabulary visible on working walls and knowledge organisers.

Why? - Enhances comprehension, communication and learning across subjects, while bridging achievement gaps and supporting overall academic success.

4 Modelling the thinking



Model the Thinking (I Do, We Do, You Do).

How? - Use worked examples, dual coding, and scaffolds before independence.

Transition gradually from modelling to guided to independent tasks.

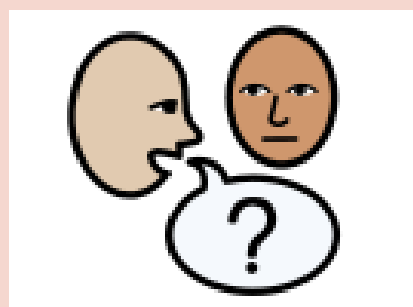
Remember to provide scaffolds, resources, models and graphic organisers to enable children to gradually become more independent.

Why? - Supports clear instruction, builds confidence, reinforces learning and promotes independent student success.

5 Opportunities to apply and talk

How? - Structure deliberate, varied practice (writing, discussion, problem-solving). Use 'Think-Pair-Share', partner talk, mini whiteboards and guided tasks.

Why? - Learning happens when children do the thinking.



6 Checking for understanding

How? - Use effective questioning (cold calling & hinge questions) to check for understanding. Address misconceptions as they arise with immediate feedback. Use visualisers, class discussions, or live marking to adapt.

Why? Feedback is most powerful when it shapes instruction in the moment.

7 Reflect, review and consolidate

How? - End lessons by revisiting the learning goal and key takeaways. Build in reflection routines (What stuck with you?). Plan for spaced practice across weeks and terms.

Why? - Helps to embed and secure learning into the long-term memory. Helps to build metacognitive strategies for learning in order to promote greater independence.

