



Benington C of E Primary School

TEACHING AND LEARNING POLICY

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1 INTRODUCTION

This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for teaching and learning at Benington Primary School.

2 TEACHING

At Benington Primary School we believe that teachers teach best when:-

- there is effective lesson preparation and planning
- there is good subject knowledge
- there is good lesson presentation and teaching method using VAK
- there is good communication and motivation skill
- there is an insistence on high standards of behaviour
- there is effective use of homework, to reinforce and extend what is learned in school
- there is good classroom organisation
- there is effective marking, assessment and monitoring of pupils' work and progress.

At Benington Primary School we believe that teachers teach best when there is effective lesson preparation and planning so, in the classroom you should see short term plans with:

- Clear learning objectives
- A range of activities to develop children's skills
- Differentiation for a range of abilities
- Note of resources, as applicable
- Opportunities for assessment for learning

out of the classroom you should see :-

- Long term, medium term and short term planning which meet the requirements of the National Curriculum & Early Years Curriculum and which reflect the school's policy statements
- Schemes of work for all subjects
- Planning informed by assessment
- Staff having opportunities to plan and work with colleagues.



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At Benington Primary School we believe that teachers teach best when there is good subject knowledge so, in the classroom you should see :-

- A clear, informative and interesting introduction to lessons
- Teachers providing clear explanations
- A good balance of challenging and appropriate questions and discussion points

out of the classroom you should see :-

- Teachers attending courses to widen knowledge on areas of individual need and supporting the SIP, feeding back to staff
- Staff meetings and INSET which develop teacher's expertise and which provide opportunities for staff to discuss ideas with each other
- Co-ordinators leading INSET to develop staff knowledge and supporting colleagues as required
- Regular monitoring of subject areas by co-ordinators and the Senior Management Team.

At Benington Primary School we believe that teachers teach best when there is good lesson presentation and teaching method so, in the classroom you should see :-

- A range of teaching styles to match subject content and learning styles of pupils
- Lessons well structured to include appropriate time for introduction, teacher-pupil interaction, task and extension, and for plenary discussion/reflection
- A brisk pace maintained in all parts of the lesson
- Exposition, explanation, demonstration and modelling by the teacher
- Opportunities for pupils to engage in practical activities, investigations, problem solving and testing
- Children supported in their learning through ICT and through concrete apparatus e.g. multilink, dictionaries and word banks
- Teachers providing appropriate extension material/tasks
- Well informed classroom assistants with clear objectives
- Opportunities for pupils to practice and reinforce skills e.g. work books, work sheets and games
- Teacher direction to ensure children know what to do and how to do it.

At Benington Primary School we believe that teachers teach best when there is good communication and motivation skill so, in the classroom you should see :-

- Teachers providing clear explanations and using appropriate vocabulary to the pupils' ability
- Tasks and activities that are pitched at the correct level and differentiated by outcome, time, resources or adult input
- Interactive discussion and argument
- Pupils actively involved and on task
- A good balance of challenging, appropriate questions and discussion points
- Teachers able to respond perceptively to pupils' questions.
- A stimulating classroom with wall displays of a range of curriculum areas supporting areas of learning, valuing and celebrating pupils' achievements

At Benington Primary School we believe that teachers teach best when there is an insistence on high standards of behaviour, so in the classroom you should see:-

- Lessons well paced so that pupils are encouraged to remain on task
- Strategies for behaviour management resulting in high standards of discipline and pupil motivation
- Reward/praising systems.



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At Benington Primary School we believe that teachers teach best when there is effective use of homework so, in the classroom you should see :-

- The use of homework to reinforce/extend learning in school, in accordance with our homework policy

At Benington Primary School we believe that teachers teach best when there is good classroom organisation so, in the classroom you should see :-

- Whole class teaching, group teaching, individual teaching
- Pupils organised to work individually, in pairs, collaboratively
- Flexible grouping with pupils working in mixed ability and ability groups (and with teacher awareness of character mismatches amongst pupils)
- Pupils encouraged to work independently
- A well organised classroom with resources clearly labelled and available for pupils.

Out of the classroom you should see:-

- Staff aware of the resources for specific subject areas
- Co-ordinators monitoring, organising, obtaining and reviewing resources for their subjects
- Staff having access to a range of media (e.g. word processor, clip art, photocopier, laminator) to produce high quality teaching aids.

At Benington Primary School we believe that teachers teach best when there is effective marking, assessment and monitoring of pupils' work and progress so, in the classroom you should see :-

- Teachers assessing children's individual needs in accordance with our assessment policy
- Teachers recapping at the start of lessons to assess what pupils already know
- Teachers using the plenary time at the end of a lesson to assess what the children have learned and whether the lesson objectives have been achieved
- Children involved in self assessment where appropriate
- Children encouraged to look critically at their own work and to think of ways of improving it and their next steps
- Individual targets set for pupils and pupils involved in their own target setting
- Teachers listening and responding to children talking about their work
- Verbal and/or written feedback to children in exercise books – recognition of goals achieved
- Teachers providing encouragement, challenge, praise and rewards.

Out of the classroom you should see:-

- Assessment used as the basis for future planning of work
- Teachers liaising with the SENCo in the formulation and implementation of IEP's in the classroom.

3 LEARNING

At Benington Primary School we believe that children learn best when:-

- they are encouraged to form positive relationships with the teacher, with classmates and with other adults
- they are actively involved in the lesson
- they are encouraged to be independent
- they are challenged and motivated
- they are working in an environment which is safe, caring and stimulating
- the lesson is well structured and delivered
- there is effective differentiation.



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At Benington Primary School we believe that children learn best when they are encouraged to form positive relationships with the teacher, with their classmates and with other adults, so you should see:-

- pupils and adults showing mutual respect
- pupils and adults in rapport with one another
- pupils showing respect and consideration for others
- pupils reflecting on how their behaviour affects others (e.g. circle time)
- pupils working with adults to establish rules and targets
- pupils supporting, encouraging and praising each other
- pupils taking pride in shared success (assemblies etc.)
- pupils able to work in collaboration with each other.

At Benington Primary School we believe that children learn best when they are actively involved in the lesson so you should see:-

- pupils enjoying their work
- pupils eager to ask and answer questions
- pupils making contributions to class discussions, sharing experiences
- pupils learning from first hand experiences, practical tasks and appropriate activities
- pupils concentrating and working on task over a period of time
- pupils engaged in collaborative activities
- pupils keen to talk about their activities and able to explain what they have been doing and what they have learned.

At Benington Primary School we believe that children learn best when they are encouraged to be independent and so you should see:-

- pupils solving problems
- pupils showing initiative and taking responsibility e.g. asking/giving help to each other with spellings, checking their own work with reference to individual targets
- pupils having access to clearly labelled resources and using them (e.g. scissors, word banks)
- pupils assessing and evaluating their own work and the work of others
- pupils having opportunities to plan and direct their own learning (e.g., science investigations)
- pupils developing research skills in using books, CD ROMs etc.
- pupils able to organise their own equipment ready to start work
- pupils selecting appropriate resources in order to carry out a task (science investigation).

At Benington Primary School we believe that children learn best when they are challenged and motivated so you should see:-

- pupils engaged in investigations and problem solving tasks
- pupils aware of their targets and working to achieve them
- pupils engaged in activities which match their ability, and which extend and challenge their thinking, their imagination and their vocabulary
- pupils improving their original work (redrafting etc.)
- pupils keen to complete their work and showing perseverance when tasks are difficult
- pupils producing quality work in which they show pride and which they are keen to share with others.



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At Benington Primary School we believe that children learn best when they are working in an environment which is safe, caring and stimulating so you should see:-

- pupils who are relaxed and happy
- pupils observing the class rules (which they have helped to agree) and being aware of the class and school values.
- pupils working safely in a calm and quiet working atmosphere
- pupils responding to praise and encouragement
- pupils showing care for each other and respect for people's property
- pupils able to explore ideas and feelings, feeling safe and confident, respecting the view of others
- pupils' work displayed, celebrated and valued
- pupils observing the school rules and aware of safety issues (e.g. science, technology, and P.E. lessons, on the playground.)

At Benington Primary School we believe that children learn best when the lesson is well structured and delivered so you should see:-

- pupils building on what they have previously learned
- pupils developing their understanding
- pupils acquiring knowledge
- pupils developing new skills and applying them
- pupils knowing what to do and what is expected of them
- pupils working at good pace, aware of the time factor
- pupils making good progress
- pupils aware of the learning objectives.

At Benington Primary School we believe that children learn best when there is effective differentiation so you should see:-

- pupils engaged in activities differentiated to match their needs, but nonetheless challenging
- pupils achieving success and motivated by it.

4 CHILDREN ARE DIFFERENT

At Benington Primary School, we understand that all children learn in different ways so you should see:-

- pupils learning through an auditory approach
- pupils learning through a visual approach
- pupils learning through a "hands on /doing" approach.
- The use of Accelerated Learning.
- Use of AFL