

Learning Policy	
Policy Number	FGB-005
Responsible Post	Head Teacher
Responsible Committee	Full Governing Body
Review Schedule	3 Years
Review Date	11/12/2013
Changed	No



The Governing Body's key roles are:

- To Provide a strategic view
- To Support and challenge the Head Teacher and the School
- To ensure accountability.

Rationale

At Manor Church of Infant School we believe that:

- Learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience
- Learning is a lifelong experience
- Learning is about acquiring the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices
- Learning should be relevant, challenging and achievable
- Learning should be meaningful and involve thinking and often a degree of risk taking
- Learning involves seeking and securing connections
- Learning environments should be secure, rich and varied for everyone
- Learning happens in different ways

We believe that highly effective planning, excellent teaching and constructive feedback are essential.

Aims and Objectives

At Manor Church of England Infant School we aim to:

- Enable children to become confident, creative, resourceful, enquiring and independent learners
- Enable children to understand what they are learning, why they are learning and the criteria for success (WALT /WILF)
- Create a safe learning environment where children are encouraged to 'have a go' , take risks and learn from their mistakes
- Promote an ethos of high expectation and self-motivation
- Develop knowledge, skills and understanding through practical, creative, real life, cross curricular experiences
- Build on and extend previous learning experiences, making links and applying knowledge
- Develop children's awareness of their strengths and weaknesses as learners
- Use thinking skills to aid learning e.g. TASC wheel, mind mapping (with adult support), learning boards
- Develop a sense of responsibility and understanding of the contribution they make to the learning environment
- Develop a school community where everyone is working towards becoming a lifelong learner
- Work in partnership with parents and children to promote lifelong learning
- Recognise and plan for different learning styles

Effective learning

We offer opportunities for all children to learn in a variety of different ways including:

- Play
- Exploration
- Investigation
- Problem solving
- Asking and answering questions
- Creative activities
- Fieldwork and educational visits
- Debates, role play and oral presentations
- Selecting and using appropriate resources
- Using ICT to support learning
- Self-evaluation
- Participation in physical activities
- Designing, making and evaluating
- Independent work
- Paired work
- Group work
- Whole class work

We encourage children to take responsibility for their own learning, to be involved in reviewing the way they learn, as far as possible, and to reflect on how they learn – what helps them and what makes it difficult for them to learn.

We support all of our children in developing accurate self-evaluation/assessment skills with the aid of focussed marking – using 2 stars and a wish and a simple traffic light marking scheme
We use both adult and child assessment to evaluate a piece of work.

Effective Learners

At Manor Church of England Infant School we aim to encourage our children to be learners who are:

- Flexible thinkers
- Adaptable changers
- Knowledge creators
- Creative explorers
- Interpreters and judges of information
- Personally and socially intelligent.

Management of Learning

We will plan and use a variety of tools to aid effective learning including:

- Brain gym
- Mind mapping
- TASC wheel
- Involving the children in planning and assessing units of work with their teacher
- Breaks to allow for children to re-energise
- Music to signal change
- Target setting with expected outcomes – WALT/WILF
- Marking which identifies strengths / weaknesses and next steps
- Child initiated and adult directed activities
- Planning for visual, auditory and kinaesthetic learners
- Time for reflection
- Time to apply learning / practice skills

Assessment of Learning

Pupils will be encouraged to be involved in the assessment of their learning.

Assessment will include:

- Focussed feedback to move learning forward
- Providing opportunities for learning to be practised
- Providing opportunities to apply learning in a range of situations.
- Observation
- Enabling children to model their learning
- Setting and reviewing targets for learning with individual / groups of children
- Self-assessment
- Sandwich assessment
- Marking with children
- Plenary sessions

Through this policy we will develop a school community where there is a practical application of theoretical knowledge, use of specific learning and thinking tools and a desire to be a learner. This policy will be reviewed annually.