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**Old Hill Primary School**

**Teaching & Learning Policy**

**September 2021**

**Introduction**

Through our school aims, we endeavour to provide the children with the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to make informed choices about the important things in their lives. The Teaching and Learning Policy will contribute to, and reflect, the overall school aims. It encompasses the curriculum to which children at Old Hill Primary School are entitled. At this school we believe in the concept of lifelong learning and the idea that both adults and children learn new things every day. We maintain that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone.

**Old Hill Primary School aims:**

* To raise standards of achievement in all aspects of pupil development through the school.
* To develop each child’s desire to achieve.
* To develop and communicate an ethos of high expectation throughout the school community.
* To provide a rich and varied learning environment, that allows children to develop their skills and abilities, working towards achieving their full potential.
* To develop skills enabling children to deal with challenges and change.
* To develop a child’s self confidence and feeling of self worth.
* To provide children with a purpose and context for their learning.
* To promote a caring and considerate attitude towards each other within the community.
* To foster the tolerance of opinions and beliefs of others.
* To engender social skills that enable children to work and communicate effectively with others.
* To promote independence.

**We believe:**

* Quality learning is a result of quality teaching and retrieval practice, which is itself informed by regular assessment and feedback.
* Teachers are the experts – they provide worked examples for pupils for development
* Learning over time is enhanced through retrieval practice
* Children and teachers value learning, the development of learning skills and the acquisition of knowledge.
* All staff will have high expectations of children in terms of their learning.
* All children should be encouraged to develop enquiring minds.
* Parents and carers have a crucial and constructive role to play in developing their children’s learning.

**Environment**

The environment the children work in plays a crucial role in the way they learn. We strive to provide a stimulating environment conducive to learning. This is achieved by:

* Organising environments which set an example for children.
* Celebrating children’s work.
* Providing drinking water in all classrooms, promoting nutritious school dinners and encouraging healthy snacks at playtime in order to contribute towards good physical and mental health.

**Effective Teaching and Learning**

We believe children learn best when they:

* Achieve success
* Tasks are challenging and stimulating.
* Are clear about expectations with their work and behaviour.
* Feel valued, safe and confident
* Receive feedback about their learning

**Planning**

The pupils will have opportunities to:

* Work individually, in pairs, and as a class
* Make decisions
* Solve problems
* Be creative
* Develop social skills
* Develop independence and use initiative
* Participate in enrichment
* Contribute to school life

**Assessment**

Ensure continuity by using methods of feedback & marking set out in the Feedback Policy

Regular records of weekly assessments

Reading records

**Celebrating Achievement**

Social, physical, creative and academic achievements are celebrated in many ways as an ongoing process in all aspects of school life, by:

* Verbal or written praise by teachers, peers, head and parents
* Displays of work
* Opportunities to perform or share
* Encouraging self-esteem
* Rewards within our Behaviour Policy
* Weekly Praise Assemblies

**Parental Support**

Parents/Carers can have a large impact on the progress of their children in school. To aid this, the following should be borne in mind:

* Ensuring that your child arrives at school punctually and regularly with the best possible attendance record after a good night’s sleep.
* Sharing with the teacher or Parent Support Advisor any problems in school that your child is experiencing.
* Supporting your child by attending Parents’ Evening and other important meetings.
* Supporting your child and the teacher by becoming actively involved in the operation of the Individual Education Plan or any Pastoral Support Plan that might be instigated.
* Ensuring that all contact addresses, telephone numbers and emails are up to date and correct.
* Ensuring that your child arrives at school wearing the correct uniform and bringing the correct equipment or kit.
* Show an interest in your child’s learning by asking your child questions about what they are currently learning about in different subjects.

**Equal Opportunities**

We will ensure that all children have the opportunity to progress regardless of gender, race, first language, physical or intellectual ability. Expectations are high and we will support but never limit pupils’ achievements. Assessments will not involve cultural, social, linguistic or gender bias.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

This policy will be reviewed annually by Governors