



# Learning Policy



## **Introduction**

The staff at Greens Norton C of E Primary School are committed to valuing the pupils within the school and work to promote a policy of equal opportunities for all.

This policy will act as an 'umbrella' for all other school policies and guidelines in that, along with the aims of our school, it will provide the philosophical framework for them.

## **What is learning?**

It is difficult to specifically define learning in one easy sentence due to its complexity and individuality. However at Greens Norton we believe that learning is:

Exciting

Challenging

Self fulfilling

Motivating

Informative

Rewarding

Worthwhile

Children will learn most effectively when they have the right state of mind. They need to be Relaxed, Alert, Motivated and Positive. We achieve this at Greens Norton by:

Relaxed - creating a friendly, comfortable and safe environment.

Alert - Brain gym and other focusing activities are used along with regular supplies of water to maintain the children's attention.

Motivated - Activities are related to real life scenarios to give a purpose for the learning.

Positive - We work from a model of praising and encouraging all achievements, to enable children to see themselves as successful learners.

## Principles of Learning

Every teacher in our school knows that effective learning focuses on individual children, their strengths, their needs, and the approaches that engage, motivate and inspire them.

### Aims:

- Children learn when they feel safe, relaxed, alert, positive and motivated. (it is okay to be wrong - we learn from our mistakes)
- Learning styles are taken into account to capitalise upon creativity and individuality.
- Children are encouraged to be independent learners and to be able to apply learned skills in a variety of contexts.
- Learning is a partnership between teacher, pupil and parents.

We feel that these principles are most important and that

- ◆ the child
- ◆ the home
- ◆ the school

should have shared understanding and responsibility for supporting learning.

Children learn when they feel safe, relaxed, alert, positive and motivated. (It is okay to be wrong - we learn from our mistakes)

Child	Home	School
<p>Children present their work to each other.</p> <p>Speaking and listening time for children to share experience, ideas and knowledge.</p> <p>Children drink water throughout the day.</p> <p>To be involved in decision making for the school.</p> <p>Induction days</p>	<p>Sharing information from home</p> <p>Home School agreement, eg. arriving on time for school day</p> <p>Regular communication.</p> <p>Supporting school policies.</p> <p>To make use of the opportunity of active involvement in their child's education. (eg. by helping in school)</p> <p>Ensuring a good night's sleep and healthy diet</p>	<p>Staff visits to home, playgroup or Nursery before the children enter in Reception.</p> <p>Starting school booklet.</p> <p>Child observations</p> <p>Awareness of pre-school experience.</p> <p>Create a stimulating and secure environment.</p> <p>To value children's individual contributions (eg. through School Council.)</p> <p>Positive reinforcement through rewards and praise.</p> <p>Consistent approaches to school routines.</p> <p>To have regular circle time.</p> <p>To develop the citizenship curriculum.</p> <p>To have a working behaviour policy backed by rules, rewards and sanctions.</p>

## Learning Styles are taken into account to capitalise on creativity and individuality

Child	Home	School
<p>Willingness to learn</p> <p>To evaluate learning and be flexible in strategies and approaches used.</p> <p>To be aware of how they learn best.</p>	<p>To support the learning that takes place in school and to encourage learning to continue within the home.</p> <p>To help children to access technology out of school.</p> <p>To be given time to experiment, investigate and make</p>	<p>To differentiate and provide opportunities to cater for the varying learning styles within lessons.</p> <p>To provide open ended activities that encourage creativity.</p> <p>To use drama (including visiting theatre groups) music, science, i.e. the extended curriculum.</p> <p>To take children on residential and school visits</p> <p>To recognise individual pupils talents and foster them.</p>

Children are encouraged to be independent learners and to be able to apply learned skills in a variety of contexts.

Child	Home	School
<p>Develop confidence to have a go and not to be afraid to make mistakes</p> <p>To be able to take risks within a safe environment</p>	<p>Encourage children to move from dependence to independence and interdependence, eg. encourage children to manage their own belongings.</p> <p>Applying what they have learnt at school to real life contexts at home.</p>	<p>To provide specific focus to enable learning in real life contexts.</p> <p>To provide a creative and flexible timetable to ensure children have time to think, discuss solve and do.</p> <p>To develop cross curricular-links.</p>

Learning is a partnership between school, pupil and parents.

Child	Home	School
<p>To talk about experiences and learning.</p> <p>For children to evaluate and feedback positively on each other's work.</p> <p>To be active through the School Council.</p> <p>To contribute to and follow school rules.</p> <p>To complete homework on time.</p>	<p>To listen to and encourage children's accounts of their day.</p> <p>To discuss any concerns or achievements with the class teacher.</p> <p>Involvement of FROGS.</p> <p>To read and share information from school.</p> <p>To support children's homework.</p>	<p>Parent/teacher interviews.</p> <p>Feedback to parents including: IEP reviews, Shared targets, Governors Reports, End of Year reports, Head Teacher's surgery Newsletters and Website.</p>

## Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation.

The responsibility of implementing this policy lies with all classroom staff. The Teaching and Learning team will monitor implementation with the Head Teacher through lesson observations, and discussions with staff and parents and Governors.

I/We have read the Learning Policy and are happy with the contents.

Comments:

Signed .....

Dated .....

30 September 2004

Dear Parents/Carers

During the last year the Teaching and learning team have written in consultation with all staff, the Learning Policy for the school.

We would like you to read the policy and share it with your child/ren and feel sure you will agree with the principles it contains.

You now have the opportunity to add your comments before the policy is published.

Please return by Friday 8 October 2004 to the school office.

Thank You

G.A. Morris (Mrs)