



HEADLANDS SCHOOL
SINCE 1965

Teaching and Learning Policy

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Headlands School

Teaching and Learning Policy

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Aims

Any attempt to raise standards at Headlands School must be focused on the classroom. Continued and sustained rapid improvement is dependent upon improving the quality of teaching and learning that is taking place on a daily basis.

At Headlands School the expectation is that all students are provided with high quality learning experiences that lead to consistently high levels of student achievement.

We expect every teacher to be a good teacher and to be trying to get even better - no child deserves less.

By adopting a whole school approach to teaching and learning at Headlands School we aim:

- To provide consistency of teaching and learning which is informed by the most up to date research
- To enable teachers to teach as effectively as possible
- To enable students to learn as efficiently as possible
- To give students the skills they require to become effective lifelong learners
- To provide an inclusive education for all students
- To learn from each other, through the adoption of a collaborative, Research informed approach to teaching and learning, where good practice is constantly shared

This policy outlines key elements which are key to raising standards in teaching and learning. It also sets out a broad research informed framework for teaching and learning. When reading this policy it is important to remember that adopting a broad template for structuring lessons does not preclude:

- Spontaneity
- Creativity
- Imagination
- Individuality

Principles

1. Professional Conduct:
 - Teachers will follow the appropriate Teachers Standards appropriate to their career stage
 - Teachers adhere to the Teachers Standards Personal and Professional Conduct
2. Promotion of Equal Opportunities:
 - Ensuring that every student is placed on the right course at the right level
 - Through inclusive teaching and learning practice, particularly adaptive practice
3. Celebrating Diversity:
 - Through the celebration of different social backgrounds, cultures and traditions
 - Through the application of adaptive teaching
 - Through respecting and valuing others within our school and wider community
4. Maintaining and Promotion of High Standards:
 - Effective monitoring and evaluation of all teaching and learning
 - The promotion of outstanding practice
5. Reflective Practice:
 - Using reflection as a learning tool for directing and informing practice
 - Teaching our students to use self-reflection and feedback to develop their knowledge, practice and skills
6. Research informed
 - All of our work around teaching and learning will be guided by the most up to date research on how students learn most efficiently
 - Our CPD will be informed by what the most up to date research tells us helps our teachers make impactful and sustainable improvements to their teaching practice

Purpose

- To ensure high quality teaching and learning experiences for students of all abilities and aptitudes
- To provide coherence of approach, and consistency of expectation, from all teachers and to all students
- To provide a research informed framework for teaching and learning within which there is flexibility and scope for creativity
- To raise attainment by increasing levels of student motivation, participation, challenge, and independence
- To ensure that all students entering Headlands School have the opportunity to reach their full potential academically, socially and physically and are challenged in their learning and are helped to become independent learners for life
- To inform teachers, students, parents, governors and the wider community about the aims and processes of teaching and learning

Roles and Responsibilities

All staff

- To be aware of the principles of the policy and how they can contribute towards it
- Have a responsibility, collectively and individually, to contribute to the delivery of a broad, challenging and appropriate curriculum
- To support colleagues, for example through collaboration and best practice sharing, to deliver high quality outcomes for our students

Curriculum Leaders and Subject Teams

- To have a deep understanding of Headlands School's research driven approach to teaching and learning, and to seek to continually improve teaching practice in line with the school's approach
- To be responsible for the coordination of long, medium and short term planning of schemes of learning taking into consideration the aims and objectives of the policy
- To ensure that all teaching staff in the department have strategic seating plans in place that are created and accessible on Edulink
- To take the lead on identifying the strengths and development needs of their department
- To take the lead in planning departmental CPD and coaching to ensure that areas for development are improved
- To monitor and evaluate consistent delivery of the policy at team level

Senior Leadership Team

- To have a deep understanding of Headlands School's research driven approach to teaching and learning, and to seek to continually improve teaching practice in line with the school's approach
- To provide strategic leadership on all aspects of the school
- To provide a CPD model which allows whole school, departmental and individual development needs to be identified and improved
- To ensure that whole school teaching and learning interventions and strategies are research informed and highly likely to have impact
- To provide appropriate support, training and resources for departments and individuals, especially in developing collaboration and innovation
- To ensure that department leaders are empowered with the knowledge and skills to effectively evaluate and then improve the teaching and learning within their department
- To monitor and evaluate the delivery and impact of the policy
- To modify and update the policy in the light of ongoing developments and the changing needs of the school

Governors

- To monitor the effectiveness of teaching and learning in terms of raising student attainment and through the school self-review processes
- To support the use of appropriate teaching strategies by allocating resources effectively
- To ensure that staff development and the school's Appraisal Policy promote outstanding teaching

Students

- To attend school regularly and be punctual for lessons
- To take increasing responsibility for their own learning
- To work positively within lessons to enable staff to implement the policy effectively
- To extend the learning experience outside the classroom by ensuring completion of the learning tasks set as homework
- To contribute to the development of teaching and learning at Headlands through student voice

Parental responsibility

- To support the policy of the school and to provide support for students at home, allowing them to continue to develop their learning effectively
- To ensure their children attend school regularly and arrive on time and with the right uniform
- To participate in discussions concerning their child's progress and attainment
- To support the school's behaviour policy
- To support the teaching and learning in school by offering encouragement and praise to their children

Teaching staff

- To have a deep understanding of Headlands School's research driven approach to teaching and learning, and to seek to continually improve teaching practice in line with the school's approach
- To implement this policy by ensuring the consistent delivery of outstanding learning experiences
- To provide an appropriate, challenging and stimulating programme of study to all students in their care
- To take responsibility for their own professional development, through in-school CPD, coaching and other training opportunities, and to contribute to the development of others by sharing expertise
- To ensure that strategic seating plans are in place for all classes using Edulink and that these are regularly reviewed and adjusted where necessary
- To uphold the professional standards, including being punctual, well prepared and organised
- To maintain an up-to-date knowledge of educational developments

Framework for teaching and learning

At Headlands School, we have developed a research informed framework for teaching and learning which aims to ensure that our teaching is efficient and impactful, and therefore maximises learning for all our students. This framework is summarised in the learning cycle below. All teaching development is underpinned by this framework. It is not the expectation that each of these elements would be seen within a lesson, or indeed that they would always be seen in this order. However, this is our shared understanding of effective teaching and we would expect all elements to be seen across a series of lessons.

Teaching that maximises learning for **all** students

