

Principles of Teaching & Learning at Western



Learning Culture

School values, safe, nurturing, inclusive, high expectations, empowerment, child centered, accessibility, independence, positive climate, motivated and engaged, curiosity and ambition, innovative use of technology, Six Characteristics of an Effective Learner.

Retrieval practice

Structured 5 quick questions, connect with prior learning, revisit vocabulary, address gaps in knowledge, big picture and cross curricular concepts and knowledge.



Introducing new learning

Clear learning objectives, small steps to reduce cognitive load, student practice after each step, accessibility, discussion, purpose, promote, use and explain ambitious vocabulary

Questioning

Ask lots of questions, use to probe understanding and to provide challenge, use a 'no hands up' approach to promote listening and engagement where appropriate.

Engagement- within and beyond the classroom

Teacher knowledge of the child/family, cognitive engagement, stimulating, interactive, high challenge/ low threat, resilience.

Assessment and Feedback

Reflection, quizzing, questioning, verbal feedback – individual and whole class, next steps, same day intervention, gap analysis, selfassessment, peer assessment, live marking.

Pupil tasks

Independent practice, repetition, collaboration.

Model your expectations wherever possible –
examples prepared by the teacher can be very
effective. Consider what success looks like for all
pupils. Provide scaffolds where necessary.
Consider how iPads may be used to enhance
learning and promote curiosity, engagement,
ambition and creativity.



Effective habits

Employ Dual Coding as a learning strategy. Model and encourage metacognition – encourage children to use an internal dialogue. Promote our 6 Characteristics of an Effective Learner.