



PCSA Learning Policy

Principles

This policy is based on the following principles:

- Each student has great potential to learn
- Every student and teacher is responsible for his or her own learning and is responsible for supporting the learning of others
- Learning outside the classroom is an important element in the learning experience
- Group learning is as important as individual learning
- Students and teachers have individual learning styles that influence their learning potential and learning outcomes
- Everything is a learning experience, including mistakes
- Alongside subject knowledge, life development skills such as PLTS, SEAL, numeracy and literacy are a vital aspect of learning
- Students can be given individual strategies to overcome barriers to learning
- There is often more than one answer
- Challenging thinking is good for learning

Definition

At PCSA we believe that learning is the process of acquiring new knowledge and skills and the ability to apply these in different contexts.

Specific Aims of this Policy

- To encourage independent lifelong learning
- To teach students how to learn effectively
- To enable every student to achieve their full potential

Specific Guidance

Teaching staff are responsible for planning and teaching structured lessons that reflect the detailed guidance in the PCSA 5 part lesson (LEARN) document.

Part 1:	Link	Learning must be set in context
Part 2:	Establish	Learning activities must be set up effectively
Part 3:	Achieve	Students must be given opportunities to develop new skills and knowledge through varied learning activities
Part 4:	Review	Students must have opportunities to demonstrate new learning and assess progress
Part 5:	Next Steps	Students must be asked to reflect on what they have

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achieved in relation to the big picture and where they are going next with their learning

It is the duty of all teaching staff to ensure that they provide appropriate challenge for all through the delivery of lessons which are matched to the abilities and learning styles of the students for whom they are responsible. All teachers must be aware of IEPs and GEPs.

All faculties must have clear Schemes of Learning showing how learning will be delivered in their area. These schemes will show how both intrinsic subject knowledge and skills as well as broader 'life development skills' such as PLTS, SEAL, PSICHE, literacy and numeracy are delivered.

Home learning must be set regularly in line with an agreed faculty schedule. Students must receive prompt feedback through teacher, peer or self assessment. Teachers must keep records of home learning.

Teaching staff must be pro-active with their continual professional learning. A vast range of material to assist teachers with their lesson planning exists. Examples of such support are PCSA Learning Blogs, In-school CPD, Learning Forums, Faculty INSET time, SSAT literature,, access to Masters study and PIXI CPD events.

Linked Documents

LEARN 5 Part lesson guidance, LEARN lesson planning and observation sheets, Curriculum policy.

Monitoring the Effectiveness of the Policy

Evidence of excellent provision for our learners will include Faculty Reviews, Leadership Team and Central Leaders' lesson observations and book sampling. Additional evidence will be faculty evidence portfolios, student voice feedback, schemes of learning and programmes of study. The chain of responsibility for the provision of excellent learning opportunities starts with the classroom teacher, thence onward to the Central Leader, Leadership Team, the Head of School and the Academy Council Learning and progress committee.

Policy Review:

The working of this policy will be reviewed by the Academy Council Learning and Progress Support Committee

As well as examining the specific review data, the policy statement will be checked for continuing relevance against any changed statutory requirements.

Date Policy Approved – November 2016

The name of the designated person is: Jason Edwards and Ian Shopland

The Policy is to be reviewed every 2 years and the next review is due in November 2018