

Teaching & Learning Policy

RATIONALE

As teaching and learning are at the core of the work of our school we recognise that the quality of teaching bears directly on the effectiveness of learning. We believe that appropriate learning and teaching, help promote independent life long learners who have a positive approach to learning and learning is therefore seen as a rewarding experience for everyone.

AIMS

St Cecilia's College is proud to be an all-ability school therefore we aim

- To provide a rich and varied learning environment that allows pupils to develop their skills and abilities to their full potential;
- To enable pupils to become confident, resourceful, enquiring and independent learners;
- To foster pupils' self-esteem and help build positive relationships and respect with others;
- To develop partnerships with outside agencies and the community in general to extend the boundaries of our learning environment.

PROCEDURES

We acknowledge that pupils learn in many different ways and we recognise the need to utilise strategies that allow all pupils to learn in ways that suit them best including Assessment for Learning and differentiation. Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning, to be involved as far as possible in reviewing the way they learn, and to reflect on how they learn.

Role of the Teacher

- To create a positive and purposeful learning environment
- To establish good working relationships with all pupils in the class and to treat the pupils with respect. The pupils should be treated fairly and be given equal opportunity to take part in class activities. All teachers should follow school policy with regard to discipline and classroom management and insist on good order and behaviour at all times in line with Positive Behaviour Policy
- To motivate the pupils and have high expectations of all pupils
- To promote an enjoyment of the subject
- To develop pupil's self-esteem and confidence enabling them to achieve qualifications and progression towards employment
- To develop the knowledge and skills of each individual pupil
- To regularly assess pupil's work and progress
- To discuss each pupil's progress with them and identify targets for future development
- To plan lessons with clear learning objectives and use a range of flexible teaching strategies, adaptable to meet the varied needs of the pupils including use of new technologies

- To ensure that all tasks and activities that the pupils do are safe and that when pupils are taken out from school for activities the parents are informed, their permission obtained and a risk assessment carried out
- To deploy classroom assistants and other teaching support as effectively as possible
- To reflect on their strengths and weaknesses and plan their continual professional development needs accordingly through self-evaluation and PRSD
- To ensure standards of literacy and numeracy are addressed in accordance with related policies
- To use data on individual pupils, such as SEN and summative assessment, to inform teaching
- To evaluate our teaching by reviewing and revising teaching methods and resources
- To adhere to statutory requirements regarding curriculum, assessment and reporting

Role of the Learner

- To be open minded and receptive to new information.
- To be motivated to learn and work to the best of their ability
- To respect the rules of the class, the rights of others to learn and to be prepared for class with the appropriate resources required
- To be active learners and participate in class activities
- To respect the physical environment of the classroom
- To avail of additional help, support and activities provided
- To complete work to given deadlines
- To attend all assessments, internal and external, as required
- To maintain high standards of behaviour, punctuality and attendance

Role of the Parent/Guardian

- To support the school in the education of their daughter
- To encourage their daughter to achieve her full potential
- To ensure their daughter attends school regularly and punctually
- To communicate relevant information which impacts on their daughter's learning
- To take an active interest in their daughter's work by
 - Supporting her in completion of homework
 - Regularly monitoring and signing her Day Book
 - Attending parents evenings/meetings

This policy was reviewed by the Leadership Team: January 2014

Due to be Reviewed: January 2016