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Headteacher: Mr Ian Waine

January 2010

Teaching and Learning Policy

Medstead Primary School is committed to improving the quality of learning available to all.

The school aims to support learners in achieving their full potential by:

- maximising the effectiveness of teaching and learning
- enabling individuals to take responsibility for their own learning within a supportive framework
- recognising and celebrating the achievements of all
- enabling individuals to make informed and personalised choices in their learning.
- increasing access and removing barriers to learning including promoting disability, gender and race equality.

The Policy

All learners should have equal access and entitlement to:

- a range of well-resourced and structured learning opportunities
- effective teaching across all subjects
- appropriate and wide ranging assessment which identifies additional learning needs
- effective and appropriate learning support which meets individual needs

There will be effective planning, teaching and evaluation which:

- shares clear learning outcomes with learners
- gives learners opportunities to choose ways of working and to shape the direction of their learning
- gives pupils first-hand experiences through visits and visitors
- uses stimulating starting points including artefacts, problems, stories and topical events
- makes activities relevant to children's lives
- builds on what pupils find interesting and have experienced both in and out of school
- uses a range of learning styles, including practical experimentation, problem-solving, role-play, visual materials, small group discussion and collaboration
- uses a range of resources which reflect the diversity of society
- looks for opportunities to encourage children to apply their prior learning creatively
- gives pupils opportunities to reflect on and share personal experiences and feelings
- plans for pupils to share their work with others
- gives pupils opportunities to work with others from their class, year group and different age groups
- plans, manages and monitors collaborative activities carefully
- address the needs of individuals within groups
- helps children to develop criteria for evaluating the value of their own and others work
- capitalises on unexpected learning opportunities and change the direction of a lesson where this is most effective
- asks open ended questions
- models flexible and independent thinking for children
- discuss' problems children are having and how these can be solved
- incorporates effective use of ICT
- uses assessment to inform future planning

Teaching strategies will provide opportunities for the children to:

- ask questions and challenge assumptions
- use their knowledge and prior experiences
- look for trends and patterns
- reapply their learning in new contexts
- communicate their ideas in new ways
- use their imagination
- visualise alternative solutions
- look at things from different points of view
- try alternatives and fresh approaches
- anticipate and overcome difficulties
- feel secure and supported emotionally
- keep an open mind and adapt ideas to achieve results
- evaluate critically what they do
- review their own progress
- put forward constructive comments, ideas and explanations
- listen carefully to feedback and incorporate this into their thinking
- collaborate effectively with others

Review: January 2012