



Hill Mead Primary School

Teaching and Learning Policy

What makes Hill Mead different?

1. We don't use organisational speech.
 - a. We have embedded a clear & efficient routine or expectation for everything.
 - b. We have trained the pupils (on our non-verbal signal) to carry these out silently & without fuss.
2. Almost all of the time, we work with small groups & individuals. We rarely teach the whole class at once.
 - a. We send most pupils off to work from the outset, but always in different combinations.
 - b. We strongly promote collaborative working, peer-coaching and self & peer assessment.
 - c. We circulate regularly to monitor progress, and to introduce next steps.
3. Almost all of the time, pupils work independently – usually collaboratively – and for a sustained period.
 - a. We do not allow pupils to ask us for help.
 - b. We address any low level disruption discreetly & non-verbally, including outside of the session.
 - c. We constantly monitor pupils' responses, to modify & refine our provision.
4. We always model the working volume downwards.
 - a. We cultivate a hushed, working atmosphere by talking as quietly as possible at all times, and in almost a whisper when working with small groups & individuals.
5. Marking and target setting are our key drivers of pupil progress.
 - a. Individual numeracy and writing targets are at the forefront of our regular marking.
 - b. We ensure pupils know & engage with their targets as often, and in as many ways, as possible.
 - c. We support pupils regularly in responding to marking, and in meeting their targets.

6. Our physical environment reflects & supports our approach to learning.
 - a. We have a very few, high quality displays, mostly on the available boards, keeping walls & windows clear.
 - b. We keep very few resources, and have a place for everything & everything in its place.
 - c. We have clear routines to ensure all areas are kept smart and tidy.
 - d. Our book corners are the focal point. They are warm & welcoming, and well maintained.

Frequency of Review – Annual (unless required earlier).