

Bicester Technology Studio Teaching and Learning Policy

Introduction

At Bicester Technology Studio Teaching and Learning takes into account a systematic monitoring and evaluation of every student's progress. Lessons are modified in accordance with latest pedagogy that leads to a striking impact on all students' learning. All staff take an active interest in their own professional development and how it impacts on the classroom. Teachers constantly seek feedback from students and peers about the effectiveness of their practice, feedback is used to adapt and improve the learning process.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Ensure that the students at the school are provided with high quality learning experiences that lead to consistently high levels of pupil achievement.
- Guide what students do, what teachers do, how time is managed, the organisation of the classroom and what the school as an organisation does to create an effective and well-managed learning environment in which the individual needs of each child can be met.
- Provide a common language and understanding of what makes outstanding teaching within a personalised learning framework.

Aims

1. To raise standards of achievement for students of all abilities.
2. To improve the quality of teaching and learning that goes on in Bicester Technology Studio
3. To highlight the central importance and priority given to teaching and learning.

Principles

Bicester Technology Studio is committed to:

- The provision of high quality teaching and learning that enhances the achievement of students of all abilities.
- The provision of a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum which is relevant to the needs of the students and supports their academic, social, moral, spiritual, cultural and physical development.
- The development of academic, social, moral and cultural skills which will support and enhance the learning and progress of students, incorporating the inclusion of Personal Learning and Thinking Skills.
- The development of values and attitudes, which will allow students to flourish, achieve and feel valued.
- The provision of a range of academic, social, moral, spiritual and cultural experiences which will allow all students to develop to their full potential.
- The importance of a flexible approach to teaching and learning.
- The importance of teachers using an effective range of teaching and learning strategies including the use of new technologies in the classroom.
- The involvement of students in their own learning, including the development of student awareness of the cognitive processes involved in learning.
- The provision of a system of assessment, recording and reporting, which informs and assists the teaching and learning that goes on in BTS.
- The provision of high quality learning resources.
- The provision of a caring, good humored and well-disciplined environment where effective learning can take place.
- The provision of an effective and well-organised system of student care to support the teaching and learning that goes on within BTS.
- The provision of a system of learning and language support which will allow all students to develop to their full potential.
- The provision of a high quality and relevant system of employee development to support and enhance the quality of teaching and learning that goes on within BTS.
- The development of a strong partnership between home and BTS that can support, reinforce and enhance student learning.

- The development of links with local industry and the wider community to support enhance and enrich student learning.
- The development of links to the LA's, employer partners and other schools to further enhance teaching and learning.
- The ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the quality of teaching and learning within school as part of a Bicester Technology Studio Quality Assurance processes.

Elements of Whole school Approach

The whole school approach to Teaching and Learning begins with the commitments enshrined in the school's Mission Statement. These commitments in turn are reflected in the future development and plans that are outlined in the school's Strategy for Change and the school's Improvement Plan.

The whole school development approach has a central commitment to high quality teaching and learning through a range of different elements listed below:

- A broad, balanced, differentiated and relevant curriculum
- Teaching and Learning resources and environment
- The development of a range of teaching and learning styles
- Assessment, Recording and Reporting systems
- Student Pastoral System
- Student coaching and support.
- Home/Bicester Technology Studio Liaison
- Learning and Language Support
- Non-Teaching Support
- Staff Development
- Quality Assurance Systems

Acting together these elements help to provide students with the knowledge, skills, values, attitudes and experiences which allow them to develop to their full potential. BTS believes these different elements of the whole school approach together can encourage the development of literate, numerate, ICT capable and socially aware students who can be active participants in the society of the future. In all the elements identified there is an emphasis on high expectations, student achievement and social, moral spiritual and cultural development.

Development of Teaching and Learning

Whole school Level

On a whole school level the Senior Leadership Team has a crucial role to play, within the constraints of available resources, in:

- Creating the ethos/shared values and expectations that reinforce high quality teaching and learning.
- Writing, in consultation with the Staff, the Bicester Technology Studio Development Plan with its emphasis on teaching and learning.
- Ensuring a broad, balanced, differentiated and relevant curriculum.
- Encouraging the development of effective teaching and learning styles.
- Ensuring an effective system of assessment, recording and reporting.
- Developing the role of learning and language support within BTS.
- Ensuring an effective, flexible and responsible student care system.
- Encouraging the development of a relevant and responsive system of staff development.
- Managing the monitoring and evaluation systems for teaching and learning.

Curriculum Area Level

We have established a whole school curriculum statement that underpins our core offering and guides the work of individual curriculum areas. Curriculum areas will reinforce and reflect the whole school policy on Teaching and learning and will also have a crucial role to play, within available resources, in:

- Reinforcing the Bicester Technology Studio's shared values and expectations that support high quality teaching and learning;
- Writing the subject plan with its emphasis on developing teaching and learning in line with the Bicester Technology Studio Development Plan;
- Encouraging the development of high quality teaching and learning resources;
- Encouraging the development of effective teaching and learning styles, focusing on metacognition and Learning 2 Learn strategies;
- Developing the role of learning and language support;
- Contributing positively to an effective system of pastoral care;
- Encouraging and reinforcing BTS' system of Staff Development through the curriculum area provision.
- Developing a system of monitoring and evaluating teaching and learning within the context of the whole school system.

Classroom Teaching Level

The classroom teacher has a crucial role to play in:

- Reinforcing Bicester Technology Studio's shared values and attitudes that support high quality teaching and learning and our ethos of skills development and independence;
- Following the guidelines set out in Curriculum Area's Teaching and Learning Policy;
- Developing the use of Learning 2 Learn strategies, including Metacognition, developing growth mindsets and affective Assessment for Learning;
- Contributing to the developments outlined in the Team Development Plan with respect to teaching and learning;
- Developing high quality teaching and learning resources;
- Following the Curriculum Area's Assessment, Recording and Reporting Policy Procedures;
- Working positively and co-operatively within Language and Learning Support staff.
- Contributing positively to an effective system of student care;
- Participating in staff development outlined in the school's Staff Development Plan;
- Contributing positively to the Curriculum Area system of monitoring and evaluating teaching and learning.

Student Level

Students have an important role to play in:

- Reinforcing the values, attitudes and behaviour that promote effective learning;
- Evaluating and contributing positively to the development of learning styles, employability skills and also in developing independence and resilience;
- Contributing to the development of self-assessment and evaluation, including Assessment for Learning.

Monitoring and Evaluation

To meet the commitment that Bicester Technology Studio has to encourage high student achievement, it is necessary, at all levels of the school monitor and evaluate the quality of the teaching and learning that goes on. Through the process of monitoring and evaluation, priorities for development and improvement can be identified and the quality of teaching and learning consequently enhanced.

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