

St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School



The Characteristics of Effective Learning describe behaviours that children use in order to learn. Here at St. Gregory's we offer a broad and balanced curriculum which ensures that our children are able to use and develop these skills during their time in Reception. We believe that effective learning must be meaningful to a child and must engage and interest them.

The Characteristics of Effective Learning

Playing and Exploring	Active Learning	Creating and Thinking Critically
<p>Finding out and Exploring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing curiosity about objects, events and people • Using senses to explore the world around them • Engaging in open-ended activity • Showing particular interests <p>Playing with what they know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pretending objects are things from their experience • Representing their experiences in play • Taking on a role in their play • Acting out experiences with other people <p>Being willing to 'have a go'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiating activities • Seeking challenge • Showing a 'can do' attitude • Taking a risk, engaging in new experiences and learning by trial and error 	<p>Being involved and concentrating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing a deep drive to know more about people and their world • Maintaining focus on their activity for a period of time • Showing high levels of involvement, energy and fascination • Not easily distracted • Paying attention to detail <p>Keeping on trying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persisting with an activity or towards their goal when challenges occur • Showing a belief that more effort or a different approach will pay off, and that their skills can grow and develop (growth mind set) • Bouncing back after difficulties <p>Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing satisfaction in meeting their own goals (I can!) • Being proud of how they accomplished something – not just the end result • Enjoying meeting challenges for their own sake rather than external rewards or praise 	<p>Having their own ideas (creative thinking)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking of ideas that are new and meaningful to the child • Playing with possibilities (what if? What else?) • Visualising and imagining options • Finding new ways to do things <p>Making links (building theories)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making links and noticing patterns in their experience • Making predictions • Testing their ideas • Developing ideas of grouping, sequence, cause and effect <p>Working with ideas (critical thinking)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning, making decisions about how to approach a task, solve a problem and reach a goal • Checking how well their activities are going • Flexibly changing strategy as needed • Reviewing how well the approach worked