

TWHF Core Principles of Teaching & Learning

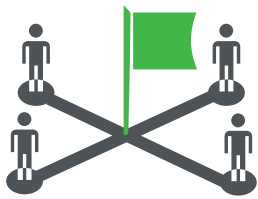


EXPLANATION

Cognitive Load Theory An understanding of CLT underpins the key factors involved in effective explanation.

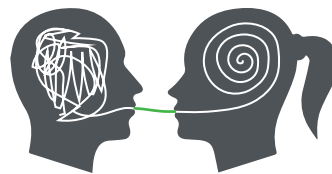
CLT is the theory around learning that is based on the premise that since the brain can only manage a limited number of things at once, we should be intentional about what we ask it to do.

The factors which support effective explanation include;



Tether new knowledge to what is already known and has already been experienced

Good teaching understands that every child has a different starting point, different prior learning and different life experiences.

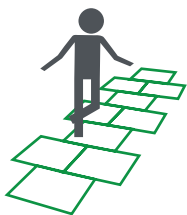


Make the Complex Simple

Teachers who explain things well, making the complex simple, score highly as great teachers. Clear explanation accelerates the learning process.

Key KPI's

- Planning of lessons considers how prior learning could be incorporated.
- Effective strategies are used to elicit prior learning.
- Complex concepts/ideas are communicated thoughtfully, taking into account their audience through range of different strategies.
- Opportunities are given for learners to rehearse, summarise and rephrase new material in order to store it into their long-term memory.
- Teachers demonstrate deep subject knowledge in order to pitch at the appropriate level.
- New information should be delivered in small steps.



Introduce in small steps

Breaking down the learning into small steps is essential to reduce the cognitive load - working memory is small and we can only handle a few bits of information at once.



Building Opportunities to Revisit Prior Learning

The 'Ebbinghaus Forgetting Curve' is a nice visual way to remind us that we must give effective explanations, but then revisit the core message with spaced repetition otherwise there is danger that it will be forgotten.