



# Teaching and Learning Policy

Approved by: T&L Committee

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Knowledge



Spark



Humanity



Grit



Team

## **The Clapgate Approach**

At Clapgate we research, debate and share the best ways to engage, motivate and inspire our children, and consider different teaching approaches to help children develop the skills and attitudes encapsulated in our golden threads.

These are some of the things we believe in at our school:

- A strong emphasis on the creative arts and on a creative approach to learning
- Constant opportunities for children to think independently, express their opinions, develop their own style, develop personal passions and take risks
- Children being encouraged to practise, repeat, reflect, accept constructive criticism, improve and know that they can learn from their “marvellous mistakes”
- High challenge, effortful learning
- Constant opportunities to debate, peer assess, peer teach, take on leadership roles, present in a group, collaborate
- A strong emphasis on pupil voice, oracy and vocabulary development
- The power of stories, drama and real-life experiences to develop empathy
- Rich opportunities to learn about the views and lives of others, reflect on their own beliefs and those of others, develop tolerance and understanding, and explore British values
- Innovative approaches to hook children into learning
- Varied opportunities to conduct research, interpret, reason, enquire and make links across different areas of learning

Our approach is very successful.

Children thrive at Clapgate and we really do inspire young minds!

## **Our Mission**

Throughout school from Nursery to Year 6, we will:

- Create memories
- Nurture talents
- Spark curiosity
- Raise self-esteem and aspirations
- Equip all children with the skills and attitudes they need to be happy, successful and caring individuals

## **Our Values**

Central to our decisions about our curriculum and our approach are the key words that form the basis of our learner profile.

### **Our Golden Threads:**



#### **SPARK**

WE WANT CHILDREN TO BE IMAGINATIVE  
AND CREATIVE.

We will nurture children's ability to think and express their ideas creatively and imaginatively across different subjects, seeking solutions to problems, exploring ways to tackle questions and having their own ideas. We will also harness children's ability to revel in a world of imagination.

#### **Keywords**

Independent thinker / Explorer / Link maker / Flexible / Playful /  
Enterprising / Individual / Proud / Adventurous / Passionate



#### **GRIT**

WE WANT CHILDREN TO BE MOTIVATED AND  
RESILIENT.

Through well-informed and high quality, engaging teaching, children will be excited to learn and determined to achieve goals and targets set for them and by them. They will see opportunities to further their learning both when they are successful and when they get things wrong (marvellous mistakes). They are not afraid to take risks, and a 'can do' and 'can't do yet' approach will always be celebrated.

#### **Keywords**

Independent / Ambitious / Risk taking / Self-disciplined / Perseverant / High  
aspirations / Strength / Self-belief / Self-esteem



### TEAM

WE WANT OUR CHILDREN TO BE  
COMMUNICATORS AND COLLABORATORS.

We will provide a range of opportunities for speaking and listening and for developing communication skills, language skills and vocabulary. Learners will formulate arguments and opinions and express themselves confidently and creatively in many ways. They will collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

### **Keywords**

Orator / Listener / Presenter / Debater / Articulate / Confident / Sense of humour / Works with others



### HUMANITY

WE WANT OUR CHILDREN TO BE RESPECTFUL  
AND CARING.

We hold strong the values of respect and responsibility and have these at the core of our ethos. Learners will show empathy, understanding, care and compassion and they will act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the diverse world around them.

### **Keywords**

Honest / Tolerant / Open-minded / Fair / Inclusive /  
Principled / Kind / Appreciative / Global citizens



## **KNOWLEDGE**

WE WANT OUR CHILDREN TO BE  
KNOWLEDGE SEEKERS AND KEEPERS.

We will teach and provide experiences and opportunities across a broad range of subjects as well as using strategies to help learning 'stick'. We will encourage children to ask questions and develop a thirst for knowledge. Our children will gradually know more, remember more and do more with their knowledge. They will engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

### **Keywords**

Enquirer / Lifelong learner / Critical thinker / Questioner / Curious  
Applies and uses / Recalls

**For more detailed information about our teaching and learning in individual subjects, please see our overview of subject approach documents and our learner profiles.**

**These can be found under each subject on our website.**