



Teaching & Learning Policy

Rationale

At St Bernadette Catholic Secondary School we believe that all Students are a unique creation of God and that all Students have special skills, abilities and aptitudes. We recognise that they all have an entitlement to access a broad, challenging and appropriate curriculum. Every Student is also entitled to experience a variety of teaching and learning which will enable them to achieve their full potential.

We aim to challenge and support all Students in their learning by creating a learning environment which is clear, orderly, supportive, stimulating, challenging and fair. All Staff have a responsibility, collectively and individually, to contribute to the delivery of the broad, challenging and appropriate curriculum. In addition they individually have a responsibility to strive to deliver lessons where the teaching and learning is of the highest quality and where the learning needs of all Students are met.

We recognise that continued professional support, coaching and development at whole school, team and individual level is essential to empower Staff to deliver effective learning experiences.

Aims

- To ensure high quality teaching and learning experiences consistently take place for Students of all abilities and aptitudes.
- To provide coherence of approach and consistency of expectation.
- To make explicit the entitlement of all Students.
- To raise achievement by increasing levels of Student motivation, participation and independence.
- To promote reflection on, and sharing of, good practice.
- To promote an understanding of how learning takes place.
- To make explicit a framework for monitoring and evaluating the teaching and learning that takes place.
- To identify specific areas of responsibility at a whole school, faculty and individual level.

Roles and responsibilities

The Governors and Strategic Leadership Team:

- The School is appropriately staffed to ensure the curriculum is being taught.
- The School is resourced and the environment is made conducive to learning.
- Teaching and learning is regularly monitored to ensure that effective learning is taking place.
- Staff are encouraged to structure and develop their teaching in order to improve learning.



- New Staff are given induction into the teaching and learning policy and handbook.
- Expectations relating to all areas of teaching and learning are clearly communicated and maintained.

Heads of Learning:

- Quality learning is planned and delivered by all members of the faculty team.
- Schemes of work are in place for all year groups with appropriate and varied learning strategies.
- Regular monitoring of the quality of learning – class work and homework.
- All Students are given the appropriate information about their courses (syllabus, curriculum route, modules).
- Marking and Assessment criteria are clearly given to Students.
- Regular monitoring of assessment, marking and feedback to Students takes place.
- Records of Student progress and assessment are maintained.
- Students are given guidance about learning strategies.
- The learning experience is consistent within the department.
- Good practice is shared within the department.
- Students' progress and attainment is monitored and interventions put in place when required.

The Teacher:

- Secure knowledge and understanding of the subject.
- Lessons, activities and resources are carefully structured and planned.
- Learning objectives of the lesson and expected outcomes are clearly explained.
- Students are challenged and motivated.
- An orderly and safe learning environment with clear routines and standards is created.
- A variety of appropriate learning strategies are used.
- Regular feedback is given to ensure learning is taking place.
- Marking and assessment procedures inform the Students about their progress and are conducted on a regular basis.
- Lessons are differentiated to meet the needs of all students and liaison with Teaching Assistants is made where appropriate.
- The School expectations on behaviour management, assessment, recording, reporting and homework are implemented.

All Staff:

- To be aware of the principles of the policy and how they can contribute to it.
- To participate in CPD to improve the quality of teaching.



The Student:

- Work effectively and purposefully in a range of contexts showing a willingness to engage in learning activities in a positive way.
- Come fully equipped and prepared to make best use of their learning opportunities
- Be prepared to share their learning and ideas in an atmosphere of trust.
- Ask questions where appropriate – of each other and the Teacher.
- Support one another, working collaboratively, recognising that the contributions of all are valid.
- Undertake self-assessment or peer assessment and be able to apply the criteria for success and to set appropriate targets for improvement.
- Know where to go for help and recognise that further progress can always be made.
- Be able to select appropriate learning resources to help develop their own learning.
- Work with increasing independence, developing the skills to become life-long learners.
- Note and complete homework on time.

The Parent/Carer is responsible for ensuring the following:

- Support the school in helping to achieve the best education for their child
- Monitor and support their child in completing homework