



Teaching and Learning Policy

Documentation for Regulatory Compliance (3a)

Trinity aims to be a progressive and innovative learning environment which promotes intellectual curiosity, creativity, and independent thought. We encourage students' knowledge and ownership of the learning process, destigmatising failure whilst promoting appropriate risk taking. Our teaching aims to empower students to focus on the method as well as the result.

We support learners in their development of:

- Independence of thought, whilst appreciating and interacting with the thoughts of others.
- Intellectual curiosity in working with, and learning from, the world around us.
- Academic rigour and precision in performing a task.
- Resilience and determination in solving problems
- Creativity and imagination in applying abstract knowledge to complex scenarios
- Confidence in taking informed risks and reflecting upon any failure.
- Humility in learning from mistakes and from regular self-evaluation
- Ability and desire to question existing theories and modes of working

We appreciate that our teachers are instrumental in generating enthusiasm and enabling students to develop the qualities listed above as part of an intellectually vibrant, imaginative, and supportive community. There is no specific teaching or learning strategy preferred or championed. However, we believe that all strategies should have intellectual depth as well as clear and coherent direction. Any strategy used by our teachers must not directly, or indirectly, encourage passivity in our learners. In providing only answers, we believe that the process of learning is bypassed, and long-term intellectual gain is not achieved.

As reflective practitioners, we aim to:

- Facilitate learning and promote a collaborative environment that encourages coaching and mentoring rather than direction and instruction.
- Challenge pupils both personally and intellectually.
- Develop pupils' understanding of, and engagement with, higher order thinking skills, through a range of classroom activities and homework.
- Provide opportunities for students to reflect upon and refine their own learning, understanding how to adopt the most appropriate strategies to further their progress.
- Promote the use of questioning; involve pupils in discussions about what is being learned and how to apply their knowledge to challenging scenarios.

- Provide appropriate stretch and challenge for all students. Differentiate by task, not outcome, responding to the needs of individual students.
- Be aware of any specific SEND or EAL needs and to employ strategies (*as per any IEP*) to readily engage each student.
- Grasp any appropriate opportunity to explore the socio-political context and implications of any material covered (*supplementing the School's delivery of SMSC*) as well as actively engaging with Fundamental British Values, never undermining, but promoting them through reasoned discussion and scrutiny.
- Encourage constructive feedback from students to inform the development of our teaching practice, ensuring we are meeting the academic needs of our students.

As teachers at Trinity, we strive to become models of academic enquiry and intellectual endeavour. Through our language and behaviour, we aim to promote a passion for learning in its broadest sense (rather than just experts in one or two discrete subject areas).

As teachers, we acknowledge the importance of our own professional development as well as the importance of creativity and innovation in developing our craft. Providing opportunities to reflect on effective pedagogy and formulate a '*Trinity response*' to developments in pedagogy we regard as essential to achieving our stated objectives.

Such collaboration is supported through our termly CPD book club, the Teachers' Forum which meets half termly and the work conducted by the school Action Research Leads. Students are also encouraged to contribute to teaching and learnings strategies through the Learning Council which meets frequently throughout the academic year.

This is in addition, and supported by, the annual Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme and the individual Professional Development programme for every member of teaching staff.

Every member of the community is encouraged to approach the Director of Teaching and Learning to discuss any additional training opportunities.

Author / Reviewer:	Mrs A Cooper (Director of Teaching and Learning)
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