



Willow Wood Community Primary School Learning Environment Policy

'An appropriate environment is key to both safety and effective learning and development'

Learning environments are a fundamental part of the everyday life of the school, enriching the children's learning experiences and encouraging an imaginative and enthusiastic approach to learning and teaching. We believe that learning environments reflect the ethos of the school and set a high standard for all to see and to aspire too. Learning environments are a powerful and effective way to both stimulate and sustain children's interest in their learning.

Aims

- To raise achievement and attainment.
- To involve learners in designing and creating their learning environment.
- To create a multi-sensory learning environment that supports all styles of learning – kinaesthetic, auditory and visual.
- To provide a range of experiences and regularly update resources to ensure that the learning environment remains stimulating and fresh.
- To promote independent learning, as well as confidence and initiative-taking.
- To celebrate and represent learners' achievements in a visual and interactive way.
- To promote learning and share expertise by holding regular 'learning walks' around the school for children, staff, parents, governors and the community.
- As a community of learners, we believe there should be a rich and diverse range of learning environments and displays.

We believe that the essential key features of an inspiring and stimulating learning environment are:

- Display models of good work across different subjects.
- AFL: clearly displayed explanation of 2 stars and a wish concept / features of a greater depth text.
- Key vocabulary, displayed in context.
- Photographs of learners learning and engaging in activities both in and out of class.
- Accessibility of information i.e. books, computer, posters etc.
- 'Class award' area.
- Clearly display school rules and sanctions.
- Welcoming area – beginning at the classroom door. Doors should be 'dressed' to mark the class individuality.
- Furniture and resources should be organised in a way that supports learning.
- English and maths area – learning environment should have features that promote both as discreet subjects as well as part cross curricular themes.
- Mission statement should be boldly displayed.

- Learning environment should reflect the aspects of the curriculum being covered in each classroom.
- There should be temporary areas which reflect a current topic of high general interest.
- Photographs to reflect recent visits.

ALL LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS MUST:

- Contain the above elements.
- Be changed regularly to reflect curriculum areas being covered.
- Have the learning intention displayed
- Have individual work clearly labelled
- Have a variety of print i.e. teachers' and children's writing, computer fonts, stencils.
- Be colourful and interactive
- Have easily accessible practical equipment and resources
- Objects of interest and interactive displays

It is the responsibility of every class teacher to organise and maintain a high quality learning environment in their class.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

At Willow Wood Community Primary School, we ensure that our learning environments and displays reflect the rich diversity, cultures and abilities of our pupils.

In each class, there will be children with a range of differing abilities and special needs and learning environments should explicitly cater to these to promote and facilitate learning.

Throughout the year, teachers will ensure that all children will have had the opportunity to contribute to work on display in the learning environment in the classroom or around the school.

Learning environments and displays will promote equal opportunities to learn and take account of stereotypes, disabilities and gender balance.