HOW WE TEACH...

SCAFFOLDING

So that children can be supported to reach an outcome.

WHAT IS IT?

Scaffolding is a variety of techniques used to move a child progressively towards a stronger understanding and ultimately, greater independence in learning. Teachers provide temporary support to reach an outcome which, over time, can be removed.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Scaffolding is needed to develop expertise. Stabilisers are needed to support a child when learning to ride a bike but eventually they need to come off once learning and confidence is achieved. The same principle applies in teaching; it is important to adapt challenging tasks to enable success and reduce cognitive overload.

SUMMARY

Scaffolds are temporary and support the development of the cognitive process but are withdrawn so a child does not become reliant on them. The outcome should be considered when providing scaffolds and teachers must ensure pupils have opportunities to work without them and to practise automaticity.
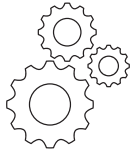
PRE-TEACH VOCABULARY & KNOWLEDGE

Identify difficult concepts or vocab. Teach to targeted pupils prior to lesson. Ensure pupils are accessing learning in class.
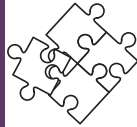
BREAK LEARNING INTO SMALL CHUNKS

Identify intended outcome. Identify potential barriers or misconceptions. Add in additional steps to address barriers or misconceptions.

PARTIALLY COMPLETED TASKS

Share or model a completed example. Remove relevant steps from example. Independent practice.

CONCRETE & VISUAL REPRESENTATIONS

Use manipulatives to represent learning. Use visuals to access texts & knowledge. Use visuals independently.

ORAL REHEARSAL

Walk through a story, problem or scenario. Practise or rehearse answer with partner. Practise or rehearse answer with an adult.

WORD BANKS & SENTENCE STEMS

Link to outcome and subject specific. Support challenging and ambitious sentence structure. Repetition and fluency leading to independent practice.

DUAL CODING

Simultaneous visual & auditory processing to reduce working load. Simple images that are linked to the steps in learning.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISERS

Knowledge organisers are a summary of the key facts and essential knowledge that pupils need about a unit of work or a curriculum subject. Knowledge organisers can be a valuable tool for both children, staff and parents.

ALLOW ENOUGH TIME

Enough time to process.
Additional time to complete learning.
Time for overlearning.