

The Meadows Montessori Primary School

Differentiation Policy

At The Meadows Montessori Primary School we recognise that our classes are made up of individuals with different concepts, aptitudes, skills and knowledge. We believe that it is inappropriate for children to work on identical programs of study within all areas of the curriculum and through out the whole school day.

The Montessori Ethos encourages independent, child led learning. The learning in our school will be theme led, alongside a structured program for numeracy and literacy. Within our mixed key stage classes we will be constantly differentiating what is being taught.

This is because:

- It enables us to cater for individual abilities and interests.
- It aids planning procedures and target setting
- It will ensure pupil achievement and success.
- It will enhance individual capabilities and strengths
- It will ensure more accurate record keeping
- It will make assessment procedure more effective
- It will enable us to better match tasks to pupils and make teaching and learning more effective.
- It will ensure that the children can progress at their own pace and mean that we can identify specific needs and gaps in their learning.
- It will assist with early diagnosis of special educational needs
- The children will be better motivated with in the classroom environment.

Observation of the classroom

In our classrooms where differentiation is being applied at a high level you will expect to see the following:

- Children working independently
- Children working in a variety of different ways
- Organised classroom environment
- A variety of tasks being carried out at the same time
- All children being involved and motivated
- Children on task
- A teacher who is not dominant in the classroom - moving freely around
- Positive pupil-teacher interaction
- Children presenting their outcomes in a variety of ways
- A teacher who can adopt a variety of roles
- co-operative learning taking place
- Teachers planning and records will be on an individual basis.

How do we enable this to happen in our classrooms?

- Smaller classes
- High staff - child ratio
- Simple but effective planning and record keeping
- A high quality planned classroom environment
- All materials should be readily available to encourage increased independence.
- Variety of reading levels within text resources
- Clear communication between teacher and child
- Teachers will be aware of pupil's prior learning and experiences

Our Aim:

To see our children becoming interested and well motivated - responding to challenges appropriately.

To encourage in our children - greater independence and co operation when required.

That children will be aware of their own progression and develop the ability to self evaluate

That there will be a high level of both teacher and child satisfaction.

Signed:

Date: