

TEACHING AND LEARNING GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

Welcome to our monthly Learning Newsletter. These newsletters look to help you to implement tried and tested learning strategies at home, in order to benefit your child and further enhance their educational experiences in the long term.

Fostering Independence Through Scaffolding

How often have you heard your son or daughter say "I can't do it!?" One of the strategies we use in school to address this type of response is to scaffold the work.

Scaffolding, as the name suggests, refers to the framework we set up to help our children grow. We begin with a lot of support - think back to the first time you taught your child to complete a task and how hands on you needed to be! Over time, however, we slowly remove the structure. We give children the chance to master the task independently, while still offering support along the way.

We encourage independence, even if it is met with some resistance. Growth is uncomfortable and change is hard, but it gets easier over time.

In school we often show pupils what a finished outcome should look like so that they have something to aspire to. This model can be used in many everyday scenarios too. Could you use scaffolding to support your child's learning whatever their age?

Handwriting and Presentation Codes

HP Marking - What is it?

HP 1 Excellent	Achievement points
HP 2 Good standard of presentation	
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HP 3 Slipping / A verbal warning	Action
HP 4 Unacceptable / Rewriting of work	Negative points

We're having a drive on handwriting and presentation and have introduced a simple system of HP codes.

Please take a look at your son/daughter's work and discuss handwriting and presentation.

Affect Vs Effect

People sometimes confuse these words when they're talking about something changing another thing.

When you're talking about the change itself -- the noun -- you'll use "**effect**."

"That movie had a great effect on me."

When you're talking about the act of changing -- the verb -- you'll use "**affect**."

"That movie affected me greatly."

