

## **MERE SCHOOL**

### **Reflection Policy**

Reflection, as a definition in the classroom, is thinking about the ways new learning fits into what we already know. It allows us to make connections between new learning and previous experiences. Reflection helps students not only to remember but also to actively participate in the learning experience. They must interact with information: making observations, asking questions and comparing understanding with those possessed by others. Reflective activities in the classroom help to make thinking visible, enabling students to learn from one another and to gain greater insights into their own thinking and learning process. Reflection is a vital skill to develop as it underpins all the skills of a good learner.

At Mere School we help the children to develop as a reflective thinker and learner across the curriculum. Children reflect before, during and after their tasks.

Some of the ways in which we do this are as follows:

#### **Plenary sessions**

Mind maps to show 'What do I know?' and then 'What have I learnt?'

Open questions from the teacher to focus on learning.

By making links between different areas of the curriculum.

#### **Literacy**

'Self' or 'peer' partner assessment of own work against learning intention or success criteria.

Paired partner work.

#### **Numeracy**

Using a traffic light self assessment system to show 'How much/well I understand'.

Children showing and explaining how they worked out problems.

#### **Science**

By using prior knowledge to make predictions and considering findings particularly ones that were a surprise.

#### **ICT**

Trying to trouble shoot and develop ICT skills independently – 'Can I do it? Can I fix it? What do I know? What can I try? What do I need to learn to do it?'

#### **History/Geography/RE**

Through questioning and discussion we encourage the children to think about differences in period/area/religion being studied, the effect it had/has on people's life styles and compare it to their own lives.

### **DT**

In DT we plan activities so the children can reflect on their work as they progress through their task and evaluate and reflect on how they would change things if they were to do it again.

### **Art**

In Art we encourage reflection as an integral part of their work. Reflecting on artist's work, their peers and their own, as a way of developing their own skills and styles.

### **PE**

We incorporate a lot of partner work to encourage the children to be reflective in developing their skills and quality of movements.

### **Music**

Children are given the opportunity to listen to and comment on a range of music. They compose and develop their own musical compositions through reflective discussions.

### **PSHE/Circle Time**

Through PSHE and Circle Time children are taught to be reflective about their own lifestyles and actions and to help each other to suggest solutions to problems.

### **Adults**

The adults at Mere School are encouraged to be reflective learners and thinkers too, supporting each other in the open and safe ethos the school promotes. Teachers have a reflective partner and share lessons regularly.

