



# Teaching and Learning Statement of Procedures

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## Key Document Details

School Name:	Melksham Oak Community School	Ratified date:	September 2021
Version no:	1	Interim review date:	n/a
Author:	Emma Cave	Next review date:	September 2023
Owner:	Emma Cave		
Approved by:	Alan Henderson		

## The Melksham Oak Way “This is how we do things here”

### Introduction

Our ambition at Melksham Oak is to deliver a **world class learning experience** for all our students. By placing students at the centre of everything we do, we strive for excellence in all aspects of teaching and learning. We seek to provide our learners with an education that will **develop global citizens**, ready to overcome the challenges of tomorrow and **raise our students’ ambitions for their futures**. We believe that **inclusive, high quality teaching and learning for all** is the first step towards academic success and the very best future prospects.

### Vision for Teaching and Learning at Melksham Oak

Our vision for a world class learning experience for all our students requires the highest of standards and expectations from every member of our school community. Every classroom is a **calm, learning-focused environment**, where teachers are able to deliver **well planned lessons** to students who are engaged in their learning. Staff have the **highest expectations** of learners and a relentless optimism that students can meet this learning challenge through scaffolding and support in and beyond the classroom. There is a commitment from staff, students and parents to achieve the **highest levels of success** –success measured by examination outcomes and more broadly in the depth and breadth of learning. Our staff are well-trained, highly fulfilled and feel valued as teachers and teaching assistants. All members of the school community have a strong sense of belonging and pride in being a member of the school.

### Vision for Teachers

- A world-class learning environment comes from a **well-planned curriculum** delivered through effective teaching and learning. Teachers are confident in the structure of their subject’s curriculum and understand and can explain what they are teaching, why they are teaching it, how the teaching links to prior and future teaching, and how learning will be assessed.
- Teachers immerse themselves in the **pedagogy of ‘The Melksham Oak Way’** and exercise the freedom to plan creatively within this to ensure that lessons have **pace, variety and challenge**. We plan and prepare lessons thoroughly, in accordance with relevant schemes of work and subject specific pedagogy.
- Teachers take account of data available for the ability and prior attainment of learners, along with information of **individual needs**, when planning adaptive learning for their classes, whilst always seeking to challenge and create increasingly **independent learners**.
- There is a **commitment to staff development** so that their collective skill base and confidence in teaching and learning is high but always improving. Teachers take responsibility for their own learning about developments in pedagogy. and developments in their subject specialism(s).

### Vision for Students

- Students are **ambitious in their learning**. They understand the importance it plays in their development as global citizens ready to face the challenges of tomorrow
- Students **challenge themselves** to make progress by taking opportunities in every lesson and completing all work to the **highest possible standard**.
- All students show respect by being **prepared for and ready to learn**. They take responsibility for their own learning and development of their Personal, Learning and Thinking skills (ACORNS: Accountability; Creativity; Open Mindedness; Resilience; Networking; Success) within the SELF Framework
- Students **seek and act upon guidance** from teachers and peers about how to improve their learning by actively responding to feedback.

### Vision of Parents/Carers

- Parents/carers have having **ambitious, high expectations** for the learning of their child, supporting their child to meet the challenges of learning.
- Parents/carers seek to help ensure their child is **prepared for and ready to learn** each day.
- They support teachers by encouraging students to **take responsibility for their own learning**, both within school and at home.

### Teaching and Learning: The Melksham Oak Way

Learning happens when students connect new content to what they already know. To achieve this, our teaching and learning is based on these six Core Principles (adapted from Making Every Lesson Count by Allison and Tharby)

- **Challenge** so that students have high expectations of what they can achieve.
- **Explanation** so that students acquire new knowledge.
- **Modelling** so that students know how to apply their knowledge
- **Practice** so that students think deeply and work towards fluency
- **Feedback** so that students close the gaps and further develop knowledge
- **Questioning** so that students think hard with breadth, depth and accuracy.

These Core Principles are underpinned by the foundational concepts of

- **Adaptive Teaching** so that all students are stretched and supported in their learning
- **Effective Behaviours** so that the climate is conducive for learning
- **Memory and Learning Science** so that knowledge is stored and retrieved
- **Subject Knowledge** so that expert thinking is cultivated

All lessons follow the structure of

- **Do Now** – Retrieval practice
- **Why Do?** – Big Question, learning journey and big picture (what, how and why)
- **I do** – Explanation and modelling
- **We do** – Guided practice
- **You do** - Independent practice
- **Review** – Review points throughout the lesson and final review