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Castle Primary School is a popular school situated in the large urban village of Portchester at the Northern end of Portsmouth Harbour. The school currently has 400 children in 14 classes (two classes of 30 per year group). The school building is large and well-maintained and is set in very attractive grounds.

In most recent Ofsted Inspection in March 2024 is available on [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

In 2023, we were awarded a Platinum Sports award by Sport England - this was in recognition of the quality of our sporting provision, both within the curriculum and additional activities at lunch time and after school.

In 2015, we were awarded an Artsmark Silver from the Arts Council in recognition of the quality of our provision for the arts, ranging from art and drama to music and dance.

We have also achieved Enhanced Healthy School Status and in May 2008 we were awarded "Investors in People". We have been an accredited Rights, Respecting School since June 2009

Our key areas for further development are:

- ✓ Raise progress and attainment in maths
- ✓ Embed assessment procedures within lessons

**What can we offer?**

- Excellent support
- Good working environment
- Well resourced classrooms including interactive whiteboards
- Well behaved and motivated pupils
- Access to training courses
- A positive enthusiastic staff



**Our School Aims and Policy for Teaching and Learning are enclosed.**



## OUR AIMS

We aim to develop:

- ✓ A secure, happy, stimulating environment where respect and trust are fostered between all members of the school community.
- ✓ An enjoyment of school and enthusiasm for learning, generating a sense of worth and a pride in achievement.
- ✓ Understanding, knowledge, attitudes and skills relevant to life and employment in a fast changing world.
- ✓ A caring attitude towards our environment.
- ✓ Methods to engage, motivate and challenge pupils enabling them to reach their potential.
- ✓ An understanding and tolerance of others.
- ✓ An open partnership with parents.
- ✓ Self discipline and independent attitudes to enable children to make their own decisions and judgements.



## Policy for Learning-Teaching:

We believe that children learn:

- ✓ If experiences meet and develop their needs, learning styles and abilities.
- ✓ Through first-hand experience.
- ✓ If they are given the opportunity to express themselves physically, intellectually, creatively, spiritually and socially.
- ✓ If experiences are relevant, enjoyable and worthwhile.
- ✓ By recognising and building on their success.
- ✓ If there are realistic and high expectations.
- ✓ By posing and responding to a range of questions.
- ✓ By working individually and collaboratively.
- ✓ If they have access to a wide variety of resources and have the skills to utilise them effectively.
- ✓ By reflecting on their own and others' experiences.
- ✓ If they are taught in a well-managed, secure and happy environment.
- ✓ If they are valued, value themselves and each other.
- ✓ If there is a working partnership between home and school.
- ✓ By having opportunities to practise and develop existing skills and learn new ones.
- ✓ In a structured environment.
- ✓ By taking risks and learning from them.

## Teaching

Teachers influence learning by:

- ✓ Creating stimulating teaching environments.
- ✓ Using a variety of appropriate teaching styles.
- ✓ Having and sharing clear objectives for lessons while allowing for flexibility and creativity.
- ✓ Evaluating the effectiveness of the planned activities.
- ✓ Planning a variety of activities and enjoyable learning experiences.
- ✓ Encouraging a self-disciplined and independent attitude.
- ✓ Providing differentiated programmes to meet individual needs.
- ✓ Valuing all pupils, celebrating their work and encouraging them to do the same.
- ✓ Creating an atmosphere where children are encouraged to make discoveries, make mistakes and learn from them.
- ✓ Having high professional standards and being approachable.
- ✓ Providing opportunities to develop a range of communication skills.
- ✓ Enabling each individual to have opportunities to reach their potential.
- ✓ Providing a variety of learning experiences, enabling children to work in a co-operative or collaborative way or as individuals.
- ✓ Enabling children to work individually, collaboratively and co-operatively.
- ✓ Being enthusiastic.
- ✓ Having an appropriate level of subject knowledge.

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If we follow our policy for learning and teaching our children will:-

- ✓ Be confident and feel secure.
- ✓ Have a positive self image
- ✓ Be sensitive to the needs of others.
- ✓ Have a positive attitude to learning.
- ✓ Relate well to other children and adults.
- ✓ Be pleased by success but accept failure.
- ✓ Learn from both positive and negative experiences.
- ✓ Be well motivated.
- ✓ Have good communication skills.
- ✓ Realise their potential.
- ✓ Know that their contribution matters.
- ✓ Care for their environment.
- ✓ Develop skills for lifelong learning.
- ✓ Acquire a range of thinking skills to enable them to become independent learners.
- ✓ Make progress commensurate with age and aptitude.