

The Thinking Curriculum

Learning to Think

Thinking to Learn

In the time of constant change it is essential that children be taught thinking skills that will allow them to be adaptable and to learn throughout their lives.

We can all learn to use our intelligence more effectively. Through opportunities in the classroom to be taught and practise a wider range of thinking skills, we can improve and diversify our thinking skills.

Teaching thinking skills complements our Differentiated Curriculum aimed at challenging all students.

In the Thinking Classroom:

The Teachers:

- Create a climate where thinking is a values activity.
- Structure the learning environment, so that students will work in a range of cooperative situations.
- Promote metacognition (thinking about thinking) through modeling his/her own thinking processes and help students to become aware of their own thinking.
- Teach explicit Thinking Skills at each year level according to our Whole School Plan.

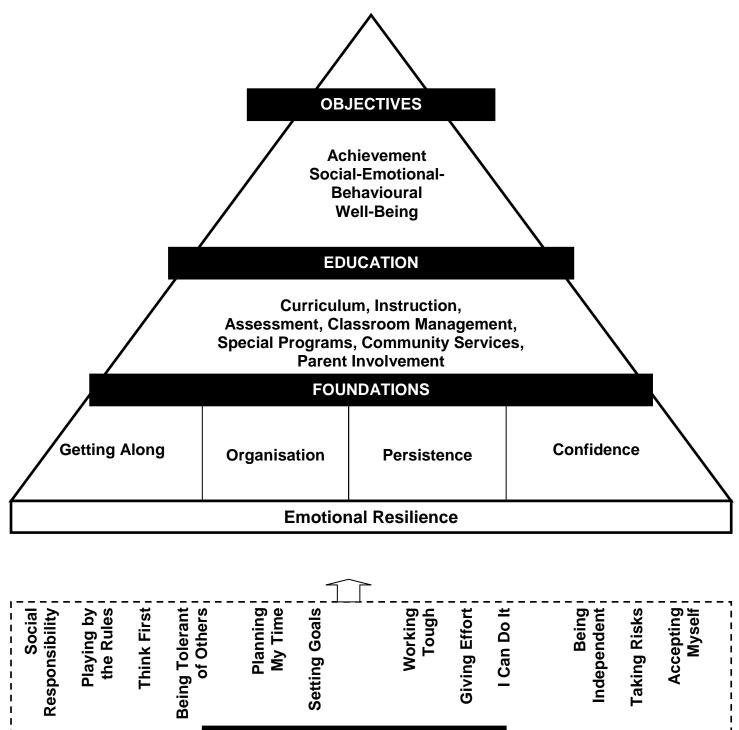
The Students:

- Are empowered with the language, tools and strategies to engage in a wide variety of thinking tasks appropriate to their level of development.
- Learn to solve problems in different ways.
- View situations from a range of perspectives.
- Use tools (Graphic Organisers) to organise their ideas and thinking.
- Learn to transfer their skills to everyday life.
- Learn Thinking Skills as tools for Life Long Learning.

THE THINKING CURRICULUM

P-6 SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

Thinking Strategy for Explicit Teaching	Year Level	Instruction Focus
Six Hat Thinking	Prep	6 Hats – introduced one at a time
	-	Extension – looking form different perspectives
Six Hat Thinking	Year 1	6 Hats revised one at a time
		Simple hat sequences
		Evaluation sequence
		Caution sequence
		Design sequence
		Extension – looking from different perspectives
Extended Brainstorming	Year 2	4 elements of brainstorming
		• Fluency
		Flexibility
		Originality
		Elaboration
Questioning Techniques	Year 3	A range of question types i.e.
		Open and closed questions
		• Fat and skinny questions
		• Q-matrix questions
Thinker's Keys	Year 4	A range of keys to promote different thinking
		Alphabet, Disadvantages, Reverse Key, What if, BAR
		Construction, Picture Question Key
		Extension – operating at different ability levels
Bloom's Taxonomy	Year 5	A range of higher and lower order questions
		Remembering
		Understanding
		Applying
		Analysing
		• Evaluating
		• Creating
Graphic Organisers		A range of ways of organizing thinking and information
		Concept mapping, Venn diagrams, Fishbone, Simple
		webbing, Question mapping, SCUMPS
CORT Thinking	Year 6	A range of Thinking Tools
		PMI, CAF, Rules, C&S, AGO, Planning, FIP, APC, Decision,
		OPV
Creative Problem Solving		Solving problems using analytical, critical and creative
		thinking
		Planning, Decision Making, CPS process, Action Planning
Graphic Organisers		A range of ways of organizing thinking and information
		The Matrix, Flow Charts, Attribute Diagram, Mind maps,
		Consequence Wheel, Question mapping



Habits of the Mind (Types of Thinking)