



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 co-operative 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

<i>Thinking Strategy for Explicit Teaching</i>	<i>Year Level</i>	<i>Instruction Focus</i>
Six Hat Thinking	Prep	6 Hats – introduced one at a time Extension – looking from different perspectives
Six Hat Thinking	Year 1	6 Hats revised one at a time Simple hat sequences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation sequence • Caution sequence • Design sequence Extension – looking from different perspectives
Extended Brainstorming	Year 2	4 elements of brainstorming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluency • Flexibility • Originality • Elaboration
Questioning Techniques	Year 3	A range of question types i.e. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open and closed questions • Fat and skinny questions • Q-matrix questions
Thinker's Keys	Year 4	A range of keys to promote different thinking <i>Alphabet, Disadvantages, Reverse Key, What if..., BAR Construction, Picture Question Key</i> Extension – operating at different ability levels
Bloom's Taxonomy	Year 5	A range of higher and lower order questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remembering • Understanding • Applying • Analysing • Evaluating • Creating A range of ways of organizing thinking and information <i>Concept mapping, Venn diagrams, Fishbone, Simple webbing, Question mapping, SCUMPS</i>
Graphic Organisers		
CORT Thinking	Year 6	A range of Thinking Tools <i>PMI, CAF, Rules, C&S, AGO, Planning, FIP, APC, Decision, OPV</i>
Creative Problem Solving		Solving problems using analytical, critical and creative thinking <i>Planning, Decision Making, CPS process, Action Planning</i>
Graphic Organisers		A range of ways of organizing thinking and information <i>The Matrix, Flow Charts, Attribute Diagram, Mind maps, Consequence Wheel, Question mapping</i>

