

“If a question is worth asking, it is worth everyone answering.”

CO-OPERATIVE LEARNING POLICY AT DUNCOMBE SCHOOL

Duncombe School is a co-operative learning school. We encourage talk and participation by all of our students using the following techniques:

Think-Pair-Share

When an open question has been asked, the children should be given a minute or so to think about their answer; they should then share their idea with their talk partner. After this some partnerships will share with the whole group.

Try to encourage children to say, “My partner and I ...”

Active Listening

Active listening involves looking at the speaker, thinking and responding. Children should sit up and show they are active listeners.

Sentence Stems

Giving children the root of the sentence needed to answer a question will enable those, who are less confident, to have a good starting point for answering questions.

Numbered Heads

Each child in the team (table) should be allocated a number - permanently. After T-P-S the teacher may ask number 4's or number 3's from each group to answer.

Team Consensus

After T-P-S teams will discuss answers and together decide on one agreed answer for the whole team. (Use numbered heads to find the team consensus answer.)

Choral Response

This is a more appropriate way to answer closed questions and questions with one word answers. Use "Think-Ready-Say" as a verbal prompt to answer chorally.

Silent/Secret Thumbs

When children are ready to answer a question, they should indicate this by showing the teacher a raised thumb. We discourage raised hands as this distracts others who are not yet ready to answer.

Ask Three Before Me

If a child is stuck with their work, they should ask three people before the teacher, e.g. two children and a classroom assistant.

Silent Signal

If an adult wants to get the class to listen to or look at them, they (the teacher) should raise their hand. No one, including the teacher, should speak when their hand is raised.

1-2-3 Move

In class and in assembly, 1) look at teacher, 2) stand, 3) move. When the group is trained, you should just have to hold up your fingers.

Team Points

Team points should be given for children who are modelling co-operative learning well.

The co-operative learning standards are:

- Help and encourage others.
- Practise Active Listening.
- Explain ideas and tell why.
- Complete tasks
- Everyone participates.

Grabbers

Grabbers are given for individual effort and drawn out for Friday's Grabber Prize award.