

A Framework for Great Teaching - Understanding the Content

Building Knowledge – Motivating Teachers – Developing Teaching Techniques – Embedding Practice

Having deep and fluent knowledge

- The teacher demonstrates a nuanced understanding of the subject content
- The teacher can respond promptly and accurately to pupil questions
- The teacher is easily able to reformulate explanations
- Links are established to other subjects and reallife contexts
- The lesson moves beyond the printed materials and textbook

Sequencing content and ideas

- The teacher demonstrates awareness of the prior learning required
- There is a gradual progression from simplicity to complexity through the lesson
- The lesson is contextualised within a wider sequence of learning and purpose
- The teacher refers to what the next stages in learning will be

Sharing knowledge in multiple ways

- The activities are well suited to the material being covered
- The teacher explains the purpose of activities with reference to the objective
- Assessment shows pupils where they are in relation to the objective
- The teacher is able to explain a single concept or idea in different ways
- Examples used are relevant and demonstrative of teacher knowledge
- Where appropriate, the teacher supports explanation with an analogy

Anticipating potential barriers to learning

- The teacher demonstrates awareness of potential misconceptions
- The teacher addresses common misconceptions explicitly
- Instruction includes discussion of strategies to better remember the content
- The lesson is wellpitched to build on prior knowledge



A Framework for Great Teaching - Creating a Supportive Environment

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Promoting positive adult and child interactions and relationships

- Teacher-pupil interactions are largely positive and successful
- In both actions and use of language, the teacher shows deep respect
- The teacher is understanding of all pupils in the classroom
- The teacher demonstrates genuine warmth and care towards all pupils
- Language is framed positively; negativity is avoided
- The teacher adapts language to meet individual pupil needs
- The teacher is conscious of pupils' cultural and/or religious beliefs

Promoting a climate for collaborative learning

- Pupil-pupil interactions are largely positive and successful
- Pupils show respect for each other in their language and actions
- Pupils trust each other and feel comfortable in the classroom
- Where appropriate, pupils work well together in pursuit of a shared goal
- Pupils are willing to and capable of helping each other learn
- The teacher encourages pupils to be kind to each other and caring

Motivating learners

- Overall, pupils are eager and willing to engage with learning
- The teacher encourages pupils to recognise their achievements
- The teacher provides opportunity for pupils to develop autonomy
- The teacher articulates the application of learning to real life scenarios

Communicating high expectations and challenge

- The teacher sets very high standards of work and behaviour
- It appears that the teacher believes in the potential for success of all pupils
- The teacher does not lower their standards for any subgroup of pupils
- The teacher sets ambitious yet achievable goals for pupils
- Pupils are willing to suggest answers even when there is a high level of doubt
- The teacher encourages pupils to recognise their own role in success/failure



A Framework for Great Teaching - Maximising Opportunity to Learn

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Maximising learning time

- The lesson start starts punctually and in an orderly manner
- The teacher always communicates their instructions clearly
- Transitions are smooth and wellrehearsed; no learning time is lost
- Resources used in class support learning and are readily available
- Pupils are actively engaged in learning until the end of the lesson
- The teacher ensures that little time is lost to off-task behaviour

Establishing clear expectations for behaviour

- Pupils all know, understand and can verbalise what is expected of them
- The teacher communicates expectations clearly and checks for understanding
- The teacher ensures pupils understand what happens if they do not behave
- Both praise and consequences are given fairly and proportionately

Promoting positive behaviours for learning

- The teacher knows what is happening in the classroom (no blind spots)
- Misbehaviour is managed promptly and discreetly
- The teacher recognises potential problems before they become real problems
- The teacher has strategies to signal their awareness of issues to pupils
- Where pupils are making the right decisions, this is acknowledged
- There is little disruption to learning caused by poor behaviour
- When responding to poor behaviour, teacher's voice is firm, but no shouting



A Framework for Great Teaching - Activating Hard Thinking

Building Knowledge - Motivating Teachers - Developing Teaching Techniques - Embedding Practice

Scaffolding learning effectively

- The lesson has a logical flow that moves from simple to complex
- The teacher verbalises the relevance of tasks/activities to lesson outcomes
- Pupils are told how lesson outcomes relate to a wider structure (ie units)
- The lesson progression is clearly articulated by the teacher
- Activities/tasks are well designed to support all learners' needs
- Scaffolding is used judiciously; gradually retracted as knowledge is secured
- The teacher checks whether prerequisite knowledge is readily available before teaching a new concept
- Teaching provides opportunities for pupils to think deeply and connect ideas

Modelling new ideas, knowledge and skills

- New ideas are presented clearly, concisely and in small steps
- The teacher gives explanations which are 'just right' in depth and length
- The teacher carefully chooses language which is easily understandable
- The teacher connects new ideas to accessible prior knowledge
- The teacher uses examples to support understanding of new ideas
- Explanation of new content is supported by effective modelling
- Where appropriate, the teacher demonstrates new methods and skills

Using effective questioning

- Adequate thinking time is allowed to pupils when posing questions
- The design/format of questions is appropriate for the content being taught
- Questions asked prompt pupils to think deeply and develop understanding
- Questions asked promote rich dialogue which moves learning forward
- The teacher asks questions which assess if new ideas have been understood
- The teacher regularly elicits question responses from all pupils
- Pupils are asked to justify or explain their answers, or others' answers



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Providing effective feedback

- The teacher appraises and acknowledges all answers given
- The teacher adapts teaching based on pupil responses to questions
- Pupils are supported to recognise strengths and areas for improvement
- The teacher provides manageable amounts of feedback
- Pupils are encouraged to interact with feedback received
- The feedback provided by the teacher is focussed on how to improve
- The teacher provides feedback which is encouraging and inspiring

Making learning stick

- The teacher prioritises retention of the most crucial knowledge
- Where appropriate, the teacher allows for extended practice
- The teacher provides an appropriate level of support/guidance during practice
- The teacher provides opportunity for overlearning of key subject knowledge
- Previously learnt material is revisited to prevent forgetting
- The teacher prompts pupils to transfer learning into new contexts

Promoting meta-cognitive strategies

- The teacher verbalises their thinking and planning as a model
- There is conversation about how to learn between teacher and pupils
- The teacher explicitly supports planning – in a subject specific context
- The teacher explicitly supports the development of pupil selfregulation
- Pupils are encouraged and taught to monitor their own learning
- The teacher provides opportunity and structure for pupils to evaluate their own work
- The teacher demonstrates a commitment to pupils becoming increasingly independent over time