



Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School

Part of The Romero Catholic Academy

TEACHING & LEARNING POLICY

Responsible for Policy:	School Improvement Board (Interim Academy Committee)
Date of Policy:	April 2019
Date Approved by SIB:	June 2019
Date of Review:	April 2020
Cycle of Review:	Annual

The school is named after Cardinal Nicholas Wiseman who became the first Cardinal upon the re-establishment of the Catholic hierarchy in England and Wales in 1850. His coat of arms is displayed on every student's blazer. The motto is 'All things for Christ' therefore faith is at the heart of everything we do, as well as recognising that we are all made in the image of God.

Cardinal Wiseman School, as a member of Romero Multi Academy Company, believes that all young people, whatever their background, are made in God's image and have unique talents. In Christ, all things are possible, and we believe that each individual is capable of learning and of experiencing success as a result of hard work, commitment, learning from mistakes, and guidance. Effective learning is a result of effort and persistence. All pupils are capable of growth and overcoming difficulties in learning. Pope Francis said: "Education cannot be neutral. It is either positive or negative; either it enriches or it impoverishes; either it enables a person to grow or it lessens, even corrupts him. The mission of schools is to develop a sense of truth, of what is good and beautiful."

KEY PRINCIPLES

1. All sequences of lessons should be structured around the PiXL 4:2 strategy, alongside Cardinal Wiseman Teaching and Learning expectations.
2. Learning activities are planned to meet the specific needs of individuals and groups of students (including SEND, Pupil Premium and the more able) as identified by assessment and other data.
3. Teachers intervene or reshape learning as soon as the need arises to ensure a high quality of learning for all.
4. AfL strategies are used as a valued tool for improving teaching and learning.
5. Students receive regular detailed formative assessment feedback, as outlined in the school and departmental marking and assessment policies.
6. Behaviour for learning is supported by following the school's behaviour policy and appropriate seating plans.
7. Homework is set to support learning according to the school Homework Policy. Knowledge Booklets are central to the reinforcement of learning at home.

MONITORING

The quality of learning and teaching across the school is reviewed by SLT, Heads of Faculty/Department and other staff via drop-ins, learning walks, lesson observations, work scrutinies and Student Voice. Faculty Heads and Subject Leaders are expected to monitor standards within their own subject area. Teaching and Learning forms an important part of the department self-evaluation process. All staff are expected to be reflective and match their professional development choices and appraisal to the key principles of this policy.

Quality of learning drop-ins will occur at regular intervals per academic year for trainees or staff working on development. The quality of learning drop-ins will gauge typicality, consistency and the quality of education. These will be carried out by Heads of Department, teachers in charge of subjects and members of the SLT. Judgements will be made based on student learning and progress over time and not solely on the lesson being observed. In order to evaluate progress over time, books/folders, progress trackers and schemes of

learning will be reviewed. Grades will not be given for lessons, but strengths (WWW) and areas for development (EBI) will be fed back. CPD links will be suggested if appropriate.

CPD recommendations will also be offered. SLT will conduct follow-up observations if learning and progress is of concern. Staff will be given opportunities to strengthen their teaching practice through a range of activities such as observations, coaching and mentoring and CPD whether internal or external.

Learning walks, work scrutinies and Pupil Voice surveys will take place as per the teaching and learning review calendar and will be carried out by SLT, members of the Pastoral team and Heads of Faculty/ Department. Collaborative learning walks may be carried out by any department members.