

## Developing a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Curriculum

### **Focus for curriculum innovation :**

Developing thinking skills so that pupils become more independent and involved in their learning.

Tower School is a small school catering for pupils from 3-11 years. It has a very diverse population which is celebrated through the inclusive nature of the school.

Class sizes are relatively small and fluctuate from year to year. During the last academic year classes in KS1 were made up of single year groups whilst in KS2 we had mixed age classes. Numbers of pupils further up the school tend to get smaller and delivery of a balanced curriculum becomes increasingly difficult.

On analysis of data, assessment procedures and pupil interviews achievement is generally below that of national expectations on entry to the school. The ethos of the school is such that all pupils are encouraged to achieve the best that they possible can. Levels of independence in the children were becoming a growing concern and the school was keen to develop the pupils' independence and look at ways in which they could be more involved in the learning process and planning the next steps in learning. In this way, the school would monitor and moderate access to the curriculum so that all needs were being met.



### **Nature and scope of project activity**

Systems in FS2 and KS1 had been introduced and were becoming embedded with pupils involved in self-registration, using planning boards, and having access to visual timetables. Children were encouraged to talk about the learning going on and discussions were taking place to decide how this learning would move on to support pupils.

After whole school discussions, it was agreed that this work could be extended to KS2 to support AfL in school where children were articulating what they were learning but not really having a direct involvement in moving their learning on sufficiently. The school was looking for consistency and through evaluation and moderation looking for motivated learners who were thinking about the work they were doing.

## News sheet

The school is expecting to develop work by:

- Working with pupils to identify what good learning looks like
- Involve children in discussions to identify how they would like to be involved in the learning and planning of learning
- Use the changed learning culture to support achievement of targets and developing self motivation



### **Project Outcome**

The school hopes to achieve the following:

- Include all children in the learning process
- Have recognition that pupils can influence the learning they have access to through their varied interests.
- Children become increasingly involved in developing their learning to reinforce skills taught and can identify next steps in learning
- Learners are confident, well motivated pupils who enjoy learning and have the opportunity to be involved in the running of the school in a variety of ways.

How do we achieve this?

- developing the role of the School Council
- develop thinking skills activities in the classroom
- increased pupil awareness of how skills can be interchangeable and applied across the curriculum.
- Pupils begin to have higher expectations of themselves.
- Pupils are included in the planning process.



**Every Child Matters**