

# Visible Learning at Cornbank Primary School

## Information for Parents

### Session 2015/16

Visible learning is an approach to learning and teaching. It is based on the work and research evidence of the educational researcher John Hattie. His work looked at the key factors which improve teaching and learning for children.

**The key factors proven to have the greatest impact are:-**

- A shared language of learning across the whole school community.
- Learners knowing why and what they are learning and what they need to do next to move on in their learning, in effect, becoming their own teachers.
- Inspired and passionate teachers who are learning continually.

## Cornbank's Learning Toolkit

**A shared language of learning by all in the school community**

In order to support our pupils from our Nursery to Primary 7 on their life-long learning journey we have recently launched the Cornbank Learning Toolkit. The idea is to equip our children with the skills and attitudes they need to sustain them as successful, life-long learners and give them the "learning tools" they need and the training necessary to support them in their learning journey.

Just as in a real toolkit, we have included useful items that help to get jobs done successfully. You can see them displayed in the school entrance hall. In our learning toolkit there are eight of these useful items, each one representing a core skill or attitude essential for successful learning. Our eight learning tools are:

# 'Learning Tools'

**Perseverance: a saw**

**Concentration: a spirit level**

**Curiosity: a spanner**

**Co-operation: a nut and bolt**

**Creativity: a pencil**

**Confidence: a drill**

**Enthusiasm: tape measure**

**Initiative: a torch**

Over the next few weeks the children will be introduced to each 'learning tool'. They will consider what each word means and how the skill can support their learning. As well as seeing a picture of the tool, learning the name of the skill and considering the links between them, they will also be given a memorable phrase to help explain what the skill looks like in practice. For example, our suggested phrases for "perseverance" are "stick with it", "don't give up" and "keep trying" however during class discussion, the children will be able to develop their own special phrases to display and use. The children will be given opportunities to practise and develop their new found skills and to celebrate when they use them or see others using them. Our hope is to develop a language of learning for the whole school community.

## How can you help?

- Tell your child /children that they can learn anything they want.
- Encourage your child/children to persevere with their learning and never give up.
- Challenge is good.
- Learning is hard work and takes a lot of effort.
- Embrace 'Beautiful oops'. What we call mistakes. They help us to learn.
- Be inspired when others succeed.
- Effort and attitude determine everything.

**All of the above develop a Growth Mindset and it can be the difference between success or failure. We hope you will enjoy hearing about the 'Cornbank Learning Toolkit' from your child/children and how it is helping them with their learning.**