THE STRETCH ZONE!

This is where the good learning takes place. It's where children are trying new skills that are just beyond their reach and where quality new learning happens. They may need guidance, or may be happy to go it alone, but they will get it wrong to start with and learning to deal with that failure is the best thing a smart learner can do. The stretch zone requires resilience, optimism and a 'don't say no, have a go attitude'. It isn't supposed to be easy, and it can make children feel a bit apprehensive, but it leads to a wonderful feeling of success that makes the effort well worth while. Children who avoid the stretch zone, don't learn.



ACTIVELY TEACHING HOW TO LEARN AND THINK

This is a crucial part of the Andreas school philosophy and is tied to our growth mindset ethos. Knowing how to learn is vital if you are going to be as successful academically as you can be. It is also important in its own right as a good attitude to learning is beneficial at all times in life. Learning should be the right kind of difficult. If it is easy, you are wasting your time on skills you already have. We know how to challenge children and stretch them in a way that is fun, rewarding and ultimately leads to self motivation and pride. This in turn plays a vital role in keeping children mentally fit and healthy too. Getting children to actively reflect on their learning is important. Talk about when things go well, or not, and use the Learn Without Limits to figure out why.

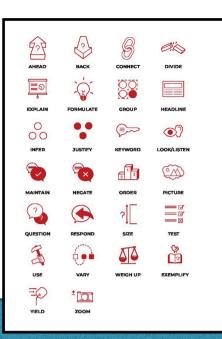


FOR FUTHER INFORMATION CONTACT SCHOOL. YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER OR THE HEAD WILL BE HAPPY TO TALK TO YOU.



TEACHING LEARNING AND THINKING AT ANDREAS SCHOOL





THINKING MOVES (TM's)

TM's are crucial for children's thinking. They give children support when using high order thinking skills and are linked explicitly to Learn Without Limits. TM's give children the tools to actively organise and explain their thinking. They help them solve problems, create new ideas, predict, debate, question, infer and see the bigger picture to name a few. Remember the key to academic success as well as good mental health is effective thinking and a positive attitude to learning.



LEARNING LEGENDS

Learning at Andreas isn't a competition. It is a celebration as each individual strives for quality and each child is valued for their own success. Learning Legends is not a reward system. They are not the 'best learners' in the class because there aren't any 'best learners'. Every day, children will be guided and encouraged to improve using the Learn Without Limits and TM's, and each little success will be celebrated. Every day, children will be praised when they show good learning and thinking. The weekly Learning Legend assembly is simply a whole school celebration. The feel good factor children get when they know they've genuinely earned it is crucial. Intrinsic motivation is the key and this can take time to develop. Teaching good learning is a long term aim so, for some children, patience is needed. It's about choice and understanding how your attitude impacts on your learning. How this looks will depend on a child's age, expectations are age appropriate so Learning Legend status is attainable for everyone.

THE COMFORT ZONE!

Is a dangerous place to be! It feels great because you get everything right and that makes you feel 'clever' but actually you are just using skills you already have. This means you're not learning anything new and your learning has simply stopped. Don't waste your time here! It takes courage to step out of the comfort zone and into the stretch but it's well worth it so be brave and aim high. Believe you can improve. Strive for quality and enjoy your success. Remember, it's your learning.

