

Resourcefulness (Resourceful Robbie)

Questioning

- Asking questions of yourself and others.
- Being curious and playful with ideas delving beneath the surface of things.

Making Links

- Seeing connections between events and experiences.
- Building patterns- weaving a web of understanding.

Imagining

- Using your imagination to put yourself through new experiences or to explore possibilities.
- Wondering 'what if...?'

Reasoning

- Using logical skills to work things out methodically and rigorously

Capitalising

- Drawing on the full range of resources from the wider world- other people, books, the Internet, past experience, future opportunities.

Reflectiveness (Reflective Rita)

Planning

- Thinking about where you are going, the action you are going to take, the time and resources you will need and the obstacles you may encounter.

Revising

- Being flexible, changing your plans in the light of different circumstances.

Distilling

- Reflecting on the learning and being your own coach.

Meta Learning

- Knowing yourself as a learner- how you learn best; how to talk about the learning process.

How can you help at home?

- Ask your child 'what is the biggest learning challenge you faced today?' and 'How did you overcome it?'
- Welcome and foster your child's questioning spirit as much as you can.
- Use the language of learning when undertaking tasks at home.
- If your child becomes stuck in their learning ask them to think of what they would have to do at school to get 'unstuck.'
- Involve them in your own learning activities by 'thinking aloud' as you attempt a DIY project or try out a new recipe. Seeing that you may also struggle at times helps children to grow and understand how to cope with uncertainties and challenges.
- Praise your child when they persevere.
- Help them to find interests and activities that are really absorbing.
- Talk with them about what helps them to concentrate and manage distractions.
- Talk about how you feel when you are taking on a challenge



An Introduction to 'Building Learning Power' 'Helping young people become better learners'

A Guide for Parents

At All Saints C of E Primary School we aim to develop our pupils' learning power, not just so they can complete school learning more easily and effectively, but also so they can develop a general purpose and set of habits and attitudes which will serve them well throughout their lives. By encouraging the children to think about their learning preferences and act accordingly, we hope to promote a life-long love of learning.

What is Building Learning Power?

Building Learning Power (BLP) is about helping our pupils to become better learners. By creating a climate that fosters good learning habits and attitudes we hope to enable them to face challenges and difficulties in a calm, confident and creative way.

Research has shown that pupils who are confident of their own learning ability learn faster and learn more efficiently. They concentrate more, think harder and find learning more rewarding and enjoyable.

This is not an instant programme but it takes root and develops over time.

- ✓ It is a learning culture that encourages children and teachers to become better learners.
- ✓ It allows children to approach difficulties in learning without fear of failure.
- ✓ It allows the children to take small steps within learning.
- ✓ It develops confidence.
- ✓ It is not additional to teaching but should be grounded within everyday teaching and learning.

Why are we Building Learning Power?

We believe that BLP is beginning to allow us to develop a common language for learning across the school. The language is used in all classrooms, with all children. This helps everyone talk about understanding learning to learn. We hope that this understanding will begin to spill over into life outside school, where you will be able to reinforce the ideas by encouraging the children to use their learning language in their everyday lives.

The idea is that the four dispositions or areas (4 Rs) are like a group of "learning muscles". Just as we can build our physical muscles with the right kind of exercise, learning muscles can also be developed and can grow in strength and stamina. It is these we are aiming to develop in the children.

What does BLP look like?

You may have heard your children already using some of the language that has been introduced in school. There are four main learning areas:

- ✓ **Resilience:** not giving up,
- ✓ **Resourcefulness:** being able to use a range of learning strategies and knowing what to do when you get stuck,
- ✓ **Reflectiveness:** being able to think about yourself as a learner and how you might be able to do this better,
- ✓ **Relationships:** being able to learn with and from others, as well as on your own.

These areas are then split into seventeen learning 'powers' that the children are encouraged to use within their everyday lessons and activities and apply to different aspects of their learning. Each area has its own super hero who shows the children how to be a Learning Power super hero!

Resilience (Resilient Roxy)

Managing Distractions

- Recognising and reducing distractions; knowing how to deal with distractions.
- Creating your own best environment for learning.

Perseverance

- Keeping going in the face of difficulties, channelling the energy of frustration productively.
- Knowing what a slow and uncertain process learning often is.

Absorption

- Being able to lose yourself in learning becoming absorbed in what you are doing

Noticing

- Noticing patterns and details in experience.

Relationships (Relationship Rory)

Collaboration

- Knowing how to manage yourself, respecting and recognising other viewpoints; adding to and drawing from the strength of teams.

Imitation

- Constructively adopting methods, habits or values from other people whom you observe.

Empathy and Listening

- Contributing to others' experiences by listening to them to understand what they are really saying and putting yourself in their shoes.

Interdependence

- Knowing when it's appropriate to learn on your own or with others, and being able to stand your ground in a debate.

