

The Coopers' Company and Coborn School



How can challenge be developed in lessons?

1. Establish the correct starting point:

include input from pupils on what they already know and understand, prior to planning – use questioning, mind maps, etc.

www.mind-mapping.co.uk/mind-maps-examples.htm

2. Use a range of higher order, open-ended questions:

encourage critical and creative thinking across and beyond the curriculum – encourage pupils to justify their responses with reasons.

www.educationforum.co.uk/HA/bloom.htm

3. Encourage the development of learning skills:

move praise beyond outcomes and attainment to traits such as persistence, use of appropriate strategies, problem solving and effort (learning to learn).

www.qcda.gov.uk/2346.aspx

4. Increase pupil participation and understanding:

develop self and peer assessment to recognise what can be improved, which is then acted upon to ensure progress (assessment for learning).

www.qcda.gov.uk/4334.aspx

5. Encourage pupils to ask questions they can pursue independently:

celebrate the asking of questions as much as the answering of them.

www.childrens-research-centre.open.ac.uk

6. Develop an ethos of high expectation:

reflect this ethos in planning, pitch of lessons and the classroom environment. Include high level subject specific language and quality resources.

www.qcda.gov.uk/2010.aspx

7. Discuss and exemplify high level responses:

use real examples of pupils' work with explicit reference to KS3 level 8 & Exceptional Performance and GCSE grade A*.

www.qcda.gov.uk/13581.aspx

8. Set ambitious pupil targets:

utilise data generated targets as the minimum expectations – organise these as appropriate, clear steps.

www.nationalstrategies.standards.dcf.gov.uk/secondary/assessment

9. Use flexible pupil groupings:

which have structured roles and criteria for effective group work.

www.marilyntew.co.uk/artical3.htm

10. Plan opportunities to develop pupils' ability to work independently:

provide rich research opportunities, with reference to quality materials.

www.teachingexpertise.com/articles/developing-independent-learning-skills-719