

Gresham Primary School

Headteacher: Mr Colm Gallagher

1st July 2016

Gresham Learning Toolkit

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that your child may have mentioned words like ‘resilience’ and ‘independence’ at home. This is because we have recently been promoting our ‘Learning Toolkit’ and have been putting the children at the heart of this process.

Decades of research identifies ‘learning skills’ as crucial in helping young people to become better learners, in developing their portable learning power and preparing young people for a lifetime of learning. Schools are increasingly seeing the importance of developing a child’s ability to learn as well as their subject skills and knowledge. We strongly believe that by giving children the tools they need to become outstanding learners, they will more likely succeed *now* as learners and at each next step they take through their education and adult lives.

What has been done so far?

- The teachers and leaders have collated what we believe to be our most important learning skills at Gresham and created a bespoke ‘Learning Toolkit’.
- Each learning skill has been differentiated into ‘must’, ‘should’ and ‘could’ statements, allowing children of all ages and abilities to succeed in using the Toolkit.
- Every class has created their own learning super hero to represent each learning skill.
- These have been professionally made into eye-catching, inspiring posters and line the walls of the corridor. They will soon be seen in the main hall, dining room and classrooms.
- Classes are currently planning, creating and performing their own assemblies to promote each learning skill.

We will continue to promote the Learning Toolkit through a combination of special events, teaching, learning and assessment, and through an enriching curriculum. We hope that with your support, we can ensure every child at Gresham is the best learner they can be by internalising and applying the Learning Toolkit. Please help us to promote the Toolkit by talking with your child at home about these skills, by supporting your child to use the Toolkit when completing their home learning, and by expecting your child to use the language of the Toolkit when discussing their learning. Occasionally, home learning may feature a specific Learning Toolkit activity.

Please see the attached document for the list of learning skills and the differentiated statements.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Butler-Kemp