A Thirst for Learning
Edgbarrow8

Definition/Rationale:

'Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire'   *Unknown source*

We believe that teaching is not simply delivering the content of a course but is doing so in such a way that motivates and inspires students to learn more. There are many ways to achieve this and it is certainly not the case that the teachers must be gregarious and put on a performance. However, we do expect that teachers are engaging and are acutely aware of the level of student engagement in the lesson and plan/adapt to the engagement levels of our students.

Underpinning Pedagogy:
How to turn students from passive recipients into engaged learners, Tips for creating a thirst for learning, How to create a growth mindset, Why curiosity enhances learning

A thirst for learning is:
- Being curious and showing a desire to learn more.
- Being passionate about your subject.
- Taking risks and having fun in the classroom.
- Is planning ambitious lessons that don't limit students and allow them to drive their own learning.

A thirst for learning is not:
- Simply about students having fun (although this is a good start!) but also helps them to become highly effective learners.

What evidence of 'A thirst for learning' might we see in a lesson or in student books?
- Students are actively engaged in their work
- Students ask inquisitive questions
- Students aren't completely dependent on the teacher and don't always wait to be told what to do next

How do we monitor this?
- Students' outcomes over time
- Learning Dives
- Work Sampling
- Student interviews

- Listen to student responses to questioning
- Reviews of the scheme of work
- Internal tracking data

Suggested classroom activities:
- Be passionate about your subject. Enthusiasm is contagious!
- Plan meaningful learning experiences that are relevant to the lives of students
- Develop routines that enable students to take their learning further
- Facilitate choice by using homework menus