Learning Passport

"Learning is a journey and it leads to freedom"

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St Edmund's Catholic Academy

Spring Term 2014

Learner_____

Form 7___

What is my learning passport?

Your learning passport is a challenge booklet which you will complete over the spring term. It is a series of activities, each of which is designed to be completed in around 30-40 minutes but if you are enjoying it you may want to work on it for longer.

What is in it for me?

Learning is a journey and a lifelong skill. Being able to learn, unlearn and relearn things is very important to be successful.

Learning to learn properly will empower you, give you lots of freedom and enable you to maximize your chances of doing well in tests and examinations. It will allow you to achieve your dreams. It will give you options.

It will be fun and if completed properly you will be half way to earning a place on the rewards visit in the summer term.

What am I expected to do?

- Complete each of the 11 activities in the learning passport.
- Once complete put all of the activities into your learning journey folder. This is to be kept in your tutor room.
- If you have items that are too big for your folder you could take a photograph of them and print it off for your folder.
- Ask a parent or carer to sign and date it when you have shown it to them.
- You must organise your time to get all of the activities finished on time.

Activity Log:

| Activity | | Date Completed | Signature of Parent/Carer |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | Why is learning important? | | |
| 2 | What does a good learner look like? | | |
| 3 | Getting motivated | | |
| 4 | Being inspired | | |
| 5 | Success | | |
| 6 | Being ready to change | | |
| 7 | Understanding my thinking | | |
| 8 | Questioning | | |
| 9 | Making Decisions | | |
| 10 | Peer Teaching | | |
| 11 | Reflecting on my work | | |

Form Tutor Signature:_____

Extra resources or sheets can be found on the Y7 website.

[1] Why is learning important?

Challenge

On an A4 piece of paper complete a spider diagram of all of the reasons you can think of why learning is important.



Chat with someone else about why learning is important.

Write down the names of the person(s) you have spoken to:

Add in any other ideas to your spider diagram about why learning is important. Do this in a different colour.

Summarise in one sentence the main reason learning is important to you.

[2] What does a good learner look like?

Challenge

On a piece of A4 paper, draw a picture of a 'good learner'. Around the outside of the picture add labels to explain what makes a good learner.



You may want to think about answers to some of these questions to help:

What does a good learner:

- wear?
- bring to school?
- do when they are stuck?
- do with feedback?

How does a good learner:

- organise themselves?
- contribute to group tasks?
- participate in class?
- behave?

Now circle at least 3 things that you are good at in one colour.

Now underline 3 things that you are going to work on improving in another colour.

[3] Getting motivated for learning

There are 2 different types of motivation.

- **INSIDE** : Motivation that comes from within you, things you do or want to do for yourself. This is called <u>Intrinsic.</u>
- **OUTSIDE** : Motivation that comes from other people or places, things that you do or want to do for other people or because of other people. This is called <u>Extrinsic</u>.

| Goal | Intrinsic | Extrinsic |
|---|---|---|
| | motivation | motivation |
| E.g I want to get a D+ in my maths assessment | E.g. because it will make me proud of myself. | E.g because my mom will take me to the cinema. |

Challenge

- Draw a table like the one above.
- Think about three goals you would like to set yourself for this year and put these in the first column of the box.
- Then record in the second column all the reasons to do with <u>inside</u> motivation that will help you achieve this goal.
- Do the same for the third column; add in reasons to do with <u>outside</u> motivation that will help you on to achieve your goal.
- Now think about what demotivates you (make you feel less like trying and more like giving up) write a list of these. *E.g. I get demotivated when I find my homework hard.*

[4] Being inspired.

Sir Steve Redgrave – an inspirational rower

In spite of having to overcome the hurdles associated with being diabetic, Sir Steve Redgrave became Britain's most successful Olympic athlete ever. Steve won five gold medals at five consecutive Olympics from 1984 to 2000 in rowing and was knighted for his outstanding achievements in 2001. His amazing determination to succeed at the highest level is an inspiration to us all.

Many people are inspired by Sir Steve Redgrave. He has worked hard all of his life and has been successful because of it.

Have you ever thought about who inspires you? Who are your heroes? Why are they important to you?



Challenge

Produce an 'Inspiration Station' for someone who inspires you. Be as creative as you like. You could write a poem, make a display board, record a song or make a diorama (A 3D model).

It may help you to think about things such as:

- What has made your role model successful?
- Has it been an easy journey?
- Why does your role model inspire you?

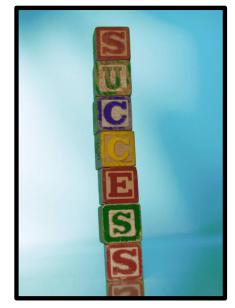
Learning Art Winner – Alyssa Capuno 7KR



Learning leads to family, friends, teamwork, trust, love, hope and respect.

[5] Success

When we feel successful or really good about ourselves it is makes us more confident at doing the things we need to do to be successful. This is called a positive cycle because, the better we feel the better we work; the better we work the better we feel. Some people say 'success breeds success'.



This challenge asks you about what being

successful looks like to you. Success is not the same thing for everybody.

Challenge

Making a success building block. Take an A4 piece of paper. Fill that piece of paper with what you would like your life to look like or be like in 10 years' time. You could draw pictures, make a collage of magazine cut outs, add in key words, draw a comic strip – whatever you like.

Things you may want to think about:

- What job are you doing?
- How do you feel?
- What qualifications did you get?

Add in a slogan which summarises what you are aiming for. Slogans are things like Nike's 'Just do it!' or Tesco's 'Every little helps'. They are generally short and to the point.

On a separate piece of A4 paper list 3 things that you need to do before the end of year 9 in order to help make your life the success you created in your success building block.

[6] Being ready to change

Change can be very very scary. Sometimes small changes can make a big difference to your learning. Other times bigger changes are needed. You have thought about things that you need to do in order to be successful already, can you think of other changes you need to make?

Challenge

Read the passage on the next page about Chris and Lee.

For this challenge activity you need pretend to be an 'Agony Aunt' and write an advice column for their school newsletter giving advice for the friends.

- Think about how you can explain the changes in Chris's results.
- What advice would you give to Chris?
- What advice would you give to Lee?
- What advice would you give to their teachers?
- What advice would you give their parents?



Can you list 3 things which you think you need to change to allow you to be a better learner? Why do you think that these changes will help you be a better learner? Add this to your learning journey folder.

Chris and Lee's Story

Chris and Lee have been best friends all through their school lives. Their families know each other and they do everything together. In school, they sit next to each other in most lessons but are in different groups for maths and English. In maths, Lee is in the top set and really gets on well with work, achieving very good results. Lee also gets good English results but isn't in the top set. In English, Chris is in the top set and gets on well with work, getting very good results. Chris gets good maths results but isn't in the top set. In all other subjects they are together and they don't get very good results at all. They are always in trouble for talking and messing about in class and no-one else wants to sit next to them or work with them because they are always clowning around and disrupting lessons. They usually do their homework together but because they don't listen in class they don't always get the full instructions and it's rushed, so that they can get on and do other things. When Lee was in hospital after a car accident, Chris felt very lost at school but at the end of term got the best report ever! All Chris's grades and effort marks had improved but they have dropped again now that Lee is back at school. Next year, they will start their exam work and their parents are now getting worried...

[7] Understanding my thinking

We can break down thinking skills into 5 different areas using the acronym PRICE:

| Processing Information | Sorting, identifying relationships, locating information, comparing, sequencing. | |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Reasoning | Giving reasons for something. | |
| Inquiry | Asking questions about something. | |
| Creative thinking | Coming up with new ideas. | |
| Evaluation | Making judgments. | |

Challenge

This challenge is to record examples of when, where and what you have done to practise each of the thinking skills.

You must have 3 examples recorded for each skill.

You can download a record sheet from the website or you can create your own.

Rob and Roy's thinking conversation





"I thought today."

"Yes but <u>how</u> did you think?"

"Oh, I thought creatively."

"How do you know?"

"Because I was coming up with new ideas."

"Where did you think?"

"I was in Art with Mr Jones in the art room."

"And what did you think about?"

"We were thinking about different materials we could use for expression and I thought of 5."

"Well done you little thinker you!"

[8] Questions

Rudyard Kipling was an author of many stories and poems.

He wrote a little poem about questions:

"I keep six honest serving men (They taught me all I knew); Their names are What and Why and When And How and Where and Who."

Good learners are able to ask lots of questions! Maybe the only ones missing here are should, would and could.

| What | Why | When |
|--------|-------|-------|
| How | Where | Who |
| Should | Would | Could |

Rudyard was born in Bombay and was very happy in an India full of interesting sights and sounds. At the age of five he was sent back to England to stay with a foster family, he was very unhappy.

Challenge

Thinking about Rudyard's life, how many questions can you think of that you could ask? Who would you like to ask them to?

Write them down and add this to your learning journey folder.

JAA listen to learn Earn your rewards A chieve your goals Respect your classmates Never give up nclude everyone Never forget to do your homework Get involved Commit yourself Open up your imagination. Do your best always Everyone has the right to learn

Learning Code Poem Winner – Rhian Cullen 7AA

Making Decisions

Making decisions is never easy. Which shoes? What to eat? Who to talk to? Where to go?

When decisions are made it is important that ALL factors are considered; the good and the bad points too. Using what you have learned about asking questions and developing your thinking skills, have a go at making some decisions.

Challenge

Choose one topic from these 3 and complete a <u>CAF</u> 'considering all factors' sheet. You can get this from the website or create your own.

- Graeme has recently come into a sum of money from a family member. His parents say he should save it for when he wants to buy a house but Graeme wants to spend it on going travelling around the world for a year.
- Panda bears are an endangered species. China invests lots of money making sure that panda breeding programs are set up and that pandas all over the world are well cared for. Some people think the money should be spent on developing jobs and taking care of its poorer citizens.



 Shelby has a footie match after school. It is the semifinal and if she doesn't play she will not be allowed to play in the starting team for the final. Her dad says that she needs to go and visit her gran and help her with some shopping. Shelby doesn't want to let down her gran but she doesn't want to let down her team; she is their star player. WAGOLL (What a good one looks like)

| The local council want to build a new cinema in the centre of | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Wolverhampton. Should it be allowed to go ahead? | | | | |
| Factor 1 | Plus | | | |
| The Cinema | More people = more money | | | |
| will bring | Minus | | | |
| lots of people into | It will be very busy and could be unsafe at night | | | |
| the city | Interesting | | | |
| centre | People will come from lots of different areas | | | |
| Factor 2 | Plus | | | |
| There will have to be | There are unsafe and unclean buildings which will be removed | | | |
| demolition | Minus | | | |
| of quite a lot of buildings in the city | Some of the buildings are pretty and just need a clean up | | | |
| centre | Interesting | | | |
| | Some buildings could be listed buildings | | | |
| Factor 3 | Plus | | | |
| It will cost a | It will create jobs | | | |
| lot of money | Minus | | | |
| to build the cinema | The council needs to spend its money on more important things | | | |
| | Interesting | | | |
| | ? | | | |
| So all things considered I think that they should have the cinema | | | | |
| but improve an old building rather than build a new one. | | | | |

[10] Peer Teaching

You have hopefully learned quite a bit about learning and why it is important. The best way to show what you have learned and be super sure you understand it is to teach it to somebody else. This challenge sets out to do just that.

Challenge

Can you create an activity which could be used in a lesson on learning? You might want to find out how much the audience already knows about learning or you may want to make an activity for them to find out something new.

Include a copy of the activity and instructions on how to use it in your learning journey folder.

[11] Reflecting on my learning

In the movie, Iron Man has an electromagnet in his chest to stop the metal moving in towards his heart. He makes the first one when he is being held captive and when he returns home thinks about how the first one was made and how it could be made better. He does this several times, it gets better each time. Iron Man reflects on what he has done, considers how to improve and tries again. We could all do well to be a bit more like Iron Man.

Challenge

Pick one piece of work which you have spent quite a bit of time on. Use the reflection tool to think about how you did in that piece of work. You can download it from the website or create one of your own. Reflection tool



Name of piece of work to be reviewed

What are the good features of this piece of work?

What features of this piece of work need to be changed?

How well have I done the task that I was set?

How well have I organised my ideas?

How well have I presented my work?

How good is my use of English?

How do I feel about the finished piece of work?

How well did I use my time when undertaking this piece of work?

What could I improve on next time?

Year 7 Learning Code

As a Learner I am...

Positive in my approach Constructive in my feedback Active in my participation Organised in my work Responsible for myself Proud of all I do