

**Nurture ~ Believe ~ Discover ~ Achieve**

### **Safa Vision**

At SCS we aim to enable our learners to have success for today and to be prepared for tomorrow.

نحن في مدرسة الصفا كوميونيتي نسعى الى تأهيل طلابنا للنجاح اليوم وتحضيرهم لمواجهة المستقبل

### **SCS Learning and Teaching Policy 2022-2023**

## **Safa Community School Learning and Teaching Policy**

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### **1. Rationale:**

This policy reflects the unique values and ethos of SCS and directly links to the school's vision. Our Safa values (Respectful Independent Thinkers, Personalised Academic Success, Caring Family Culture, Purposeful Learning Experience) play an integral part in developing both children and teachers.

At Safa Community School (SCS), our learning and teaching is driven through our:

- Safa Learning Environments
- SCS Learner Qualities (see *Appendix 1*)
- SCS Learning Skills (see *Appendix 4*)
- SCS Personalised Learning
- Educational Online Platforms

### **2. Purpose:**

At SCS we aim to enable our learners to have success for today and be prepared for tomorrow. We believe the following areas are crucial in providing our children with daily engaging learning opportunities that will enable them to develop academically, emotionally and socially whilst also providing them with lifelong learning skills. At SCS we firmly believe happiness, health, a growth mindset and self belief are key factors for a successful life learner. Through using our 6 learning skills; Identity, TEAM, Talking about Learning, Self Manager, Thinking and Questioning and Connecting the Dots, children learn how to learn. We want all our children to flourish and to be prepared for the challenges of tomorrow utilising their SCS learning skills.

### **3. SCS Learner Qualities (see *Appendix 1*)**

**As children we:**

- Are aware of the Safa Learner Qualities which enable us to be holistic adaptable learners both at school and at home.
- Think creatively as well as use the Safa Eco Code to make changes in our practices to support the world we live in.
- Engage with the world around us through real life concepts.
- Know that it is important to be different and we are open to working with people that we are asked to work with.
- Can work collaboratively with a range of people in a team and do our part to achieve a common goal.
- Are determined to succeed in our learning and act upon feedback provided by teachers.
- Demonstrate learning grit in our learning and we understand that being resilient helps us to be successful.
- Are not afraid to be wrong and we can make choices and decisions in our learning.
- Have positive attitudes towards our learning using a growth mindset.

- Wonder to generate ideas and can develop these to come up with a new understanding or idea.
- Have a passion and a love for learning.
- Utilise and engage with all online platforms to further support our learning journeys.
- Enjoy participating in an innovative and inspiring curriculum that prepares us for our future.  
We initiate our own ideas and choose to follow our own interests

**As teachers we:**

- Provide opportunities for children to be innovative and creative. We encourage them to take risks in their learning.
- Promote and foster the recognition of our children's well-being through strategies that enable them to learn from their mistakes and find solutions.
- Promote children to work together by scaffolding their TEAM strategies using the rubrics.
- Encourage children to think for themselves by enabling them to complete inquiry based projects as well as publishing their own work on Seesaw.
- Keep up to date with the most recent developments in technology and online platforms such as Century, MyOn & Pobble.
- Have high expectations of the children in all aspects of the Safa Learner Qualities.
- Provide opportunities for the children to reflect and uplevel their work based on their feedback.
- Promote an environment where children confidently provide one another with peer assessment to enhance their learning opportunities
- Have an open door policy regarding parental communication, enabling us to develop effective relationships with parents in order to enhance the learning of their children.

**As parents we:**

- Recognise that a modern curriculum will prepare our children as holistic learners for the future.
- Encourage and foster independence in our children as self managers when completing work.
- Use the bi-annual reports and dialogue with class teachers, as tools to speak to our children about their qualities as a Safa learner.
- Engage and discuss all posts on Seesaw from across the curriculum.
- Encourage the use of online platforms to support and challenge our children.

**4. Learning Skills (See appendix 4)**

**As children we:**

- Always have high expectations of our own abilities.
- Discuss, debate and reflect to enhance our own performances.
- Show independence and organisation when posting work to Seesaw.
- Think creatively and critically and apply this to real life situations.
- Have a shared understanding of the importance of well being, enabling us to become successful learners.
- Lead our peers and are willing to be led.
- Take risks in our learning.

- Are reflective learners who are emotionally resilient and can manage our attitudes, using strategies such as Growth Mindset.
- Master lifelong learning skills and transfer these to other areas of our lives.
- Understand and respect the history and cultures of the UAE as well as countries from all over the world.
- Are independent learners and effective communicators.
- Recognise that feedback has the biggest impact on our learning.
- Make links in our learning.
- Use technology to solve problems creatively and develop products.
- To collaborate and listen to others points of view.
- Utilise our online learning platforms as effective self managers.

#### **As teachers we:**

- Have a holistic view of each individual child and value their overall happiness.
- Create relevant cross-curricular lessons within meaningful contexts.
- Create flexible, calm and safe learning environments where teachers and children have mutual respect.
- Make problem-solving and innovative opportunities an intrinsic part of our lessons.
- Scaffold children in becoming effective communicators.
- Model necessary strategies to ensure all children become reflective learners.
- Continuously embrace professional development and personal reflection to ensure we are using the newest and most engaging teaching strategies.
- Plan activities that exploit the interests of our learners and allow them to work both independently and collaboratively.
- Utilise our new learning platforms to further support and challenge our learners.

#### **As parents we:**

- Encourage our children to be resilient learners by embracing a growth mindset.
- Model reflective strategies and act on feedback given.
- Model being a good citizen of the world and how to treat others.
- Use the strategies at home which SCS recognises and encourages their use throughout everyday life.

### **5. SCS Personalised Learning**

#### **As children we**

- Have the opportunity to learn and achieve to the best of our ability.
- Receive timely, focused feedback which guides learning forward and requires action and a response.
- Can discuss solo taxonomy learning verbs which guide us through the cognitive domain of critical thinking and allow us to identify our level of understanding. (Appendix 3)
- Lead our own learning by contributing ideas to planning and projects. We ask and answer our own questions through personalised choice programmes such as Freeflow and PCaRT.
- Are actively involved in setting and reviewing our own personalised targets.
- Reflect on our learning based on our SCS learning skills (*see Appendix 4*) which supports us to

take ownership over our own learning and mindsets.

- Use artificial intelligence (Century Learning) to deepen our learning and challenge ourselves.

#### **As Teachers we:**

- Ensure that learning and teaching approaches meet the personal, social, emotional and academic needs of all including SEND, EAL and MAGT children both onsite and Distance Learning.
- Ensure that all learning experiences have clear learning outcomes and well planned success criteria where pupils are provided with opportunities to make better than expected progress.
- Use effective characteristics of mastery learning (*Appendix 2*) to challenge and extend those who have already met curriculum objectives.
- Ensure teaching approaches include a balance of whole-class, group and individual activities based on individual needs and next steps.
- Ensure pupil's progress and attainment is tracked, moderated and targeted constantly throughout the academic year against curriculum objectives.
- Use a wide range of teaching methods for different learning styles.
- Provide relevant support for new children, children with SEND and MAGT children using Edukey.
- Ensure that Teaching Assistants and LSAs are used effectively to maximise progress for all.
- Use Century Learning to create individual pathways for each child.

#### **As parents we:**

- Take an interest in our child's learning, targets and next steps through attendance at Meet the Teacher, Parental engagement and discussions with our child and their teachers.
- Support the community of Safa and have the same expectations at home and in the wider community.
- Support our children to use century learning to continue to develop their own individual pathway.

### **6. Safa Learning Environment**

#### **As children we:**

- Create a positive and safe working environment by listening and supporting our peers.
- Maintain social distancing rules.
- Explore all the resources available and familiarize ourselves with them to support our progress.
- Share our ideas and opinions.
- Understand that making mistakes together is all part of the learning journey.
- Actively take part in creating our learning environments and working collaboratively to design useful visual resources
- Respect our learning spaces by using resources responsibly.

#### **As teachers we:**

- Have engaging, safe and inspiring classrooms created for purposeful inquiry whilst adhering to

social distancing regulations.

- Create learning areas to encourage the development of international mindedness where teachers and children show respect, tolerance and empathy towards others.
  - Celebrate individual and collaborative achievements, ongoing learning and thinking in progress.
  - Provide a safe, supportive, engaging and appropriately challenging learning environment.
  - Develop purposeful and empowering online learning platforms to enable children to be autonomous learners.
  - Create positive working environments where mistakes are seen as part of the learning process.
  - Value contributions from and listen to all children.
  - Foster positive relationships with all children and parents.
  - Develop spaces that adhere to social distancing rules where children are safe and can still participate in learning activities.
  - Develop learning spaces that are calm, safe and secure which can support inquiry based learning and continuous provision.
  - Provide opportunities for learning to be taken outside of the classroom.
- 
- **As Parents we**
  - Understand the purpose of child led learning through continuous provision and how the learning environment supports this.
  - understand that children's achievement is celebrated through displays.
  - Respect and acknowledge all the guidelines to maintain a safe working environment for our children.

## 7. Safa Digital Learning

### As children we:

- Stay safe online using the SCS E-safety guidelines.
- Follow the SCS code of conduct for BYOD (Bring Your Own Device).
- Demonstrate our learning using creative digital platforms.
- Explore digital platforms Century Tech, Busy Things and SPAG.com, which support and challenge our learning.
- Publish my work on a Seesaw Class.
- Give peer feedback using the Seesaw Class Blog.
- Create and innovate projects using digital media.
- Read and comprehend online books using MyOn and Accelerated Reader.

### As teachers we:

- Promote safe use of online tools.
- Support the school's BYOD policy.
- Foster positive use of digital tools to enhance learning.
- Prepare engaging and exciting learning that can be accessed digitally.
- Provide feedback through a range of platforms to stimulate further learning.
- Experiment with new digital tools, new platforms and the latest forms of technology to engage

21st century learners.

- Model creative ways for children to design and publish their work online.

**As parents we:**

- Consolidate the importance of online safety.
- Encourage our children to utilise online learning platforms.
- Celebrate our children's work and the process of learning.

**Supporting Documentation for Learning and Teaching:**

In order to ensure consistency and support for our classroom practitioners, they should use the following supporting documents:

- SCS Principles for Assessment for Learning (Primary)
- SCS Feedback Policy
- SCS Feedback Codes and Guidelines.
- Assessment Support Material - iTrack and Seesaw skills.
- Planning Guidelines.
- Pupil Progress Analysis and Meetings.
- SCS Curriculum Documents
- SCS Monitoring and Evaluation Schedule
- SCS CPD Schedule
- SCS Learning and Teaching Analysis
- SCS Distance Learning Policy
- SCS BYOD Policy
- SCS Learning Environments Policy

**8. Monitoring and Evaluating:**

The school has a board, senior leadership team and senior leaders for learning and teaching who regularly monitor Learning and Teaching in their areas of responsibility.

**Next Review Date: June 2022**

**This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:**

- Pastoral Care
- Assessment
- Feedback
- Curriculum
- PCaRT and Freeflow



## **Appendix 1**

### **SCS Learner Qualities:**

- Growth Mindset
- Team/Family
- Curious
- Accept and Understand Others
- Perseverance
- Risk Takers
- Sustainable Environment



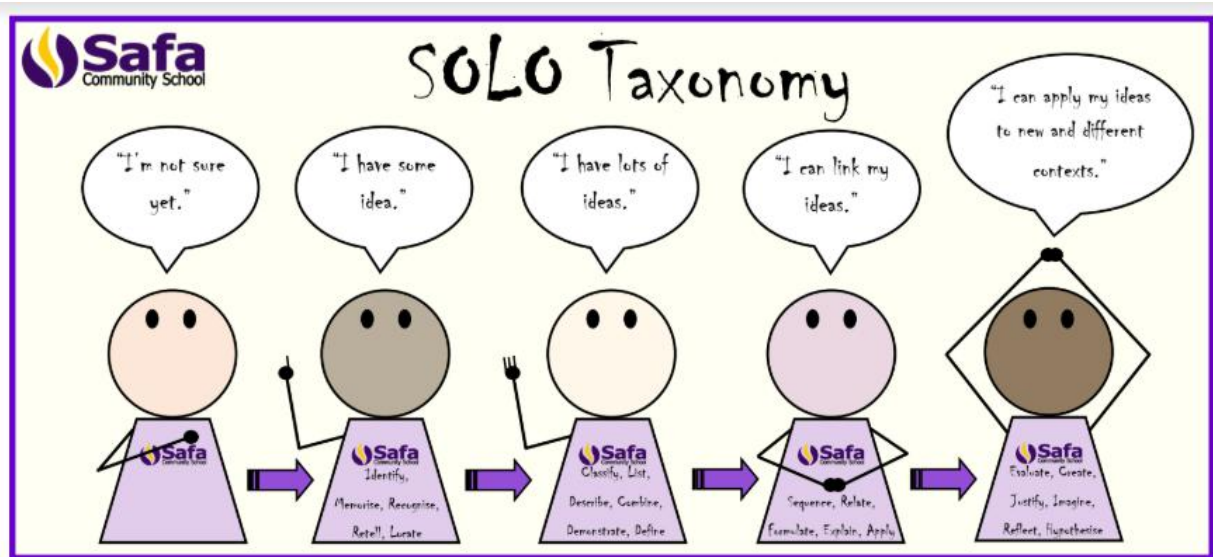
## **Appendix 2**

### **Characteristics of Mastery Learning:**

Characteristic	Meaning
Independency	Apply the skills of knowledge without recall to the teacher.
Fluency	Apply the skill and knowledge with a high level of confidence and show good resilience when the task seems demanding.
Application	Apply the skill and knowledge to a range of different contexts, including other areas of the curriculum.
Consistency	Consistently use their skills, knowledge and understanding.
Synthesise	Organise ideas to make connections with other areas of learning and new areas.
Re-visit	Return to this aspect of learning after a break and still feel confident that they can work on the skill and knowledge without difficulty.
Explain	Able to explain to others their understanding and perhaps be a learning buddy to others.

## **Appendix 3**

### **Solo Taxonomy:**



#### **Appendix 4**

#### **Learning Gears:**

