

Building Learning Power

A Guide for Parents

At Christ Church Primary we believe that learning should be a life-long enterprise and we aim to develop our pupils' learning power, so that they will leave school with a set of habits and attitudes which will serve them throughout their educational journey.

What is BLP all about?

Building Learning Power is about how to be a better learner. It is about the individual learner and their 'disposition' towards learning. This is something that can be learnt, practised and improved.

BLP is a learning culture that the whole school has adopted. It encourages children to become better learners and practise the

skills that good learners have.

At Christ Church, we are developing a common language for learning across the school. The language is used in all classrooms, with all children. This helps everyone to talk about how they best learn, and we hope that this understanding will be reinforced at home too.

On the right hand side are the four main learning powers and the section below describes the 'dispositions' contained within those powers, allowing you to see the language that is being used at school.

These dispositions are also sometimes referred to as

learning "muscles", which the children are encouraged to 'stretch' within their everyday lessons and activities and apply to different aspects of their learning.

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BLP — a summary of the learning powers:

- ☺ **Resilience.** Not giving up.
- ☺ **Resourcefulness.** Being able to use a range of learning strategies and knowing what to do when you get stuck.
- ☺ **Reflectiveness.** Being able to think about yourself as a learner and how you might be able to do this better.
- ☺ **Reciprocity.** Being able to learn with and from others, as well as on your own.

The dispositions contained in each learning power:

RESILIENCE

- **Managing distractions:** recognising and reducing distractions.

- **Perseverance:** never giving up even when tasks are tough.

- **Absorption:** losing yourself in your learning

- **Noticing:** recognizing patterns and noticing details.

RESOURCEFULNESS

- **Questioning:** asking questions and being curious.

- **Making links:** seeing connections between things and building a web of understanding.

- **Imagining:** using imagination and intuition, thinking "What if?"

Reasoning: using logic and your rational skills to work things out.

Capitalising: drawing on the full range of resources from the wider world

(people, books, the Internet etc..)

REFLECTIVENESS

Planning: thinking in advance and considering things carefully.

Revising: being flexible, monitoring and changing plans.

Distilling: Drawing out the lesson from experience and reflecting on your own learning

Meta Learning: knowing how to talk about the learning process.

RECIPROCITY

Collaboration: adding to and drawing from the strength of teams.

Imitation: adopting methods, habits or values from people whom you observe.

Empathy and listening: contributing to others' experiences by listening to them and putting yourself in their shoes.

Interdependence: knowing when you should learn on your own or with others.

How you can help at home:

- ✓ Ask your children about the learning 'muscles' they have been using at school.
- ✓ Use the language of learning when undertaking tasks at home.
- ✓ If your child struggles with their homework, ask them what they would do at school to get 'unstuck'.
- ✓ Welcome and foster your child's questioning spirit as much as you can.

