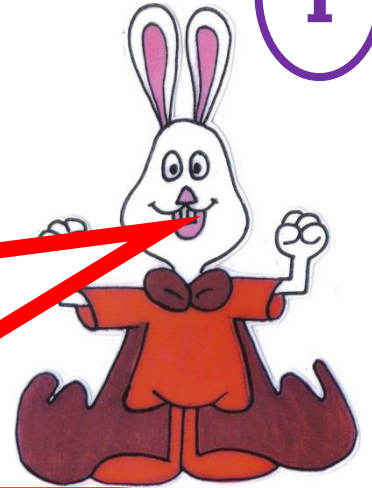


Independent learners

I

When you use this learning muscle you....

Know how much interaction you need with others to help your learning
Know when it is appropriate to learn on your own or with others
Are developing the confidence to have your own ideas and opinions



Our aim is to ensure the children to begin to develop the capacity to judge just how much interaction or independence they need in any particular situation or learning experience.

It is key that we support each child's ability to hold on to their independence of thought and awareness of responsibility for their own learning even within a group. Independent learners are self-motivated and let themselves be absorbed in the learning

Independent learners :

- Understand the task
- Take responsibility for themselves
- Take responsibility for their role in the learning they are doing
- Are aware of their own next steps and targets
- Ask for clarification / help
- Organise themselves (including time) and their resources.
- Are absorbed in their learning
- Follow the top tips / success criteria
- Have different strategies to overcome challenges
- Challenge themselves/ take a risk
- Evaluate their learning to help them improve

Through the course of the day there will be times when children play and learn as a whole class, in large or small groups, in pairs or by themselves.

Sometimes this will be organised by their teacher, and sometimes the children will choose for themselves how they will engage with a particular activity. Involve children in decisions about who they work with and why?

"What do you enjoy about learning with other people?" "Do you prefer to do this learning on your own?" "How does this help you become a better learner?" "When is it good to learn by yourself?" "Do we need to be in a group to get that information?" "Why do you think that is?" "What does it feel like when other people disagree with you?" "What would help you stick to your own ideas?" "What makes you change your views and adopt / take up those of other people in your group?" "Who do you learn best with?" "Maybe this is the moment to go and think about this quietly by yourself, to sort out your ideas before working with others?"