

The **Hidden** Curriculum in Action

A Secondary School in Wales

WHAT IS THE HIDDEN CURRICULUM?

WHERE IS THE HIDDEN CURRICULUM?

'the socialization process of schooling.'

(Kentli 2009)

"Learning to wait quietly, exercising restraint, trying, completing work, keeping busy, cooperating, showing allegiance to both teachers and peers, being neat and punctual, and conducting oneself courteously."

Durkheim observed that more is taught and learned in schools than specified in the established curriculum of textbooks and teacher manuals

Durkheim (1961)

Theories of Learning

Skinner...positive reinforcement. Passive learning, criticised for not being a creative process.

Piaget...Active Learning...relying on the stages of development, focussing on the learner rather than the processes of learning. No recognition that different learners have different learning styles.

Vygotsky...learning and teaching as social activities. Identifying the importance of improving a child's ability to learn by teacher support. Criticised for being highly dependent on verbal communication.

Bruner...spiralling concept, i.e. a concept is constantly revised as other learning occurs.

Evidence of the Hidden Curriculum in a secondary School

Importance of home school links

Transition from Primary

- Transition days for Year 6
- Y6 Parents... meeting staff
- pupil voice

Uniform

- Affordable
- Easily available
- Second hand shop

Routines

- Consistent classroom rules
- Expectations explained
- Use of Welsh to answer register

Teaching and Learning

Positive Reinforcement

- set high standards
- encourage questioning to problem solve
- Communication with parents
- support from parents

Group work

- create good listeners
- Sharing ideas
- encourage communication

Awareness of different learning styles

- Supporting different learners
- Building on concepts as they develop
- encourage creative thinking

Routines and Traditions

Thought for the day

- A message from the Head teacher for the day ahead.
- Reinforces the ethos of the school to teachers and pupils

Eisteddfod

- Cwricwlwm Cymreig
- Recognising pupils talents outside the classroom

Remembrance Service and carol services

- Annual school events welcoming outside visitors
- Confidence building and empathy for others

Outside the Classroom

Healthy Eating

- Reducing opportunities for unhealthy eating
- Provision of healthy snacks

Looking after the environment

- Providing litter bins in the school
- Encouraging recycling schemes

The School as part of the community

- Concerts for the local community
- Litter bins in the vicinity of the school

In addition, the school organises Welsh awareness days for Year 7, 8 and 9 and the Welsh Baccalaureate is delivered at Key stages 4 and 5.

7 Core Aims..Children in Wales have a right to:

- a flying start in life
- a comprehensive range of education and learning opportunities
- the best possible health and are free from abuse, victimisation and exploitation
- access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activities
- To be listened to, treated with respect, and have their race and cultural identity recognised
- a safe home and a community which supports physical and emotional wellbeing
- are not disadvantaged by poverty.

Children and Young People: Rights to Action' Welsh Government (2002)

A Curriculum for Wales – a curriculum for life. (Welsh Government 2015)

AIMS

To produce:

1. Ambitious and Capable learners
2. Enterprising, creative contributors
3. Ethical, informed citizens
4. Healthy and confident individuals

6 Areas of Learning to Support the aims of the Curriculum

1. Expressive Arts
2. Health & Well Being
3. Humanities
4. Languages Literacy & Communication
5. Maths & Numeracy
6. Science & Tech.

Cross Curriculum Responsibilities
Literacy, Numeracy, digital Competence
and
Y Cwricwlwm Cymreig

THE CURRICULUM

"The subjects comprising a course of study in a school or college"

Oxford Dictionary

'Pupils should be given opportunities, where appropriate, to develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the cultural, economic, environmental, historical and linguistic characteristics of Wales'

<http://learning.gov.wales/docs/learningwales/publications/130424-developing-the-curriculum-cymreig-en.pdf>

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