

# **Iceni Principles of Instruction**



### Retrieval and Recap



#### **RETRIEVAL PRACTICE**

Retrieval practice is an important component of instruction. It helps strengthen the connections of the material learned. Automatic recall frees working memory for problem solving and creativity.



#### WEEKLY & MONTHLY REVIEW

The effort involved in recalling recently-learned material embeds it in long-term memory. The more this happens, the easier it is to connect new material to such prior knowledge.

# **Big Question**



#### **BIG QUESTIONS**

Each lesson or series of lessons contains one or two 'Big Questions'. These enable students to explore key aspects of knowledge, foregrounding enquiry over objective. Big Questions are the key information teachers need their students to know and understand.

## **New Knowledge**



#### **NEW MATERIAL IN SMALL STEPS**

Our working memory is small, only handling a few bits of information at once. Avoid its overload – present new material in small steps and proceed only when the first steps are mastered.



#### **VOCABULARY INSTRUCTION**

The explicit teaching of Tier 2 and 3 vocabulary and inclusion of academic reading helps students build crucial literacy, oracy and writing knowledge necessary for success in school and society.



#### **PROVIDE MODELS**

Students need cognitive support to help them learn how to solve problems. Modelling, worked examples and teacher thinking out loud help clarify the specific steps involved.



#### **QUESTIONING**

Ask questions and check the responses of all students using cold calling and hands up. Questions help students practice new knowledge and connect material to prior learning.

# **Intelligent Practice**



#### GUIDE STUDENT PRACTICE

Students need additional time to rephrase, rehearse, elaborate and summarise new material in order to store it in their long-term memory.



#### **SCAFFOLDS**

Scaffolds are temporary supports to assist learning. They ensure teachers are always teaching to the top and not lowering expectations of the knowledge and skills students deserve access to.



# INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

Independent practice is a necessary process for new material to be recalled automatically. Teachers include extensive opportunities for this.

## Plenary and Next Steps



#### **CHECK STUDENT UNDERSTANDING**

Checking for student understanding at each point in the lesson – and particularly during the plenary – can help students learn the material with fewer errors committed to memory.