

Jurassic Coast Teaching School Alliance

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Teaching and Learning Case Studies

Name of School: Holyrood Academy, Chard

Title of case study: Differentiation

Where did you start from, what did you set out to do and why?

- *Differentiation for low ability* was identified both by an internal review and an external review as being an area to develop.
- Whole school inset was planned for the January inset day to provide initial training for all colleagues.
- Lead Practitioner (LP) support was offered to colleagues implementing ideas from the training.

What did you do and who was involved?

Initially there was LP research of this area and then during the inset, all colleagues attended an hour's differentiation session in groups of no more than 25. This session included:

- Colleagues being taught an *undifferentiated* Russian lesson so that they could have an experience not unlike that of a student with additional needs.
- Colleagues were then taught a similar lesson which was heavily *differentiated* for low ability.
- A *grid of differentiation ideas* and a booklet of definitions of these ideas were then distributed and staff asked to identify which means of differentiation were employed during the session.
- Colleagues were then given the grid and booklet to take away and use to plan their own lessons.

What difference did it make?

- Colleagues are making use of the differentiation grid and booklet to plan more effectively for low ability. Observed in learning walks.
- Colleagues are using a wider range of differentiation strategies – not just using a variety of worksheets. The staff are much more aware of the different ideas available to them.
- The grid has been evidenced in learning walks to show which methods of differentiation colleagues are using in lessons.
- Colleagues who required support with implementing ideas was readily accepted and utilised.

What are you planning to do next?

- Ensure new colleagues are informed of the ideas from the training through staff induction.
- Provide further whole school training on deeper learning for ALL students ie. Differentiating to enable students of all abilities to access higher order information. Not dunning down but differentiating up to ensure deep learning takes place for all students.
- Provide similar training with higher ability students in mind.

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Working together to share best practice across the alliance

DIFFERENTIATION IN MY LESSON

In this lesson, I have used the forms of differentiation below to support my students (ticked as appropriate). An explanation of these can be found on the O'drive (*staff, lesson observations, useful documents... differentiation strategies*)

Teamwork	Personalised feedback	Buddying	Think, pair, share	Tablemats
Discovery learning	Keywords	Differentiated language	TA support	Student friendly fonts
Key word discussion	Stepped activities	Memory techniques	Brain, book, buddy, boss	Bullet points and/or tables
Seating plans	Stories	Students teaching	Helpers	Expert corner
Personalised targets	Giving options	Checklist sheets	Differentiation by Outcome	Student choice
Hot seating	Pacing	Modelling	Colour Coded activities	Differentiated resources