

OUR LEARNING STORY

Woolsthorpe provides a unique and dynamic learning experience for its learners. Our school has a history and culture of high expectations, parent involvement and academic excellence. We live, learn and work by our 'Trademark' of Respect, Excellence, Care and Teamwork.

Emphasis in learning is often focused primarily on the product or the answer. We believe that it is the process of learning which should be the main focus for students with less emphasis on just 'getting the right answer'. iPad is used to embed thinking and skills, record and share learning creatively.

Our school is recognised by the local community for its **non-negotiables** when it comes to ensuring a safe, caring and innovative learning environment. We work hard with families to build genuine relationships that foster genuine conversations and feedback processes.

Our new school was built in 2013, with the latest technology and learning spaces, where teachers work in collaborative teams to personalise learning for all students. iPad technology is embedded, almost invisible, in all areas of learning and is strategically used to enhance learning experience. We are a 1-to-1 iPad school with all students and staff using iPad to drive and support our learning culture.

Discovery Learning is a way of embedding our learning process across the whole school, Prep-6. We use learners' interests, ideas and questions to motivate them and engage them in curriculum content. Students are able to show, explain and prove their learning, hence our focus on Learner Traits.

Our House System, Creative Arts, Science Specialist, Chinese language, Discovery Learning, Kitchen and Gardening Programs are just some of the unique experiences our learners have here at Woolsthorpe.

WHY A LEARNING PROCESS

Our Learning Process is designed to be a simple common language that all learners in our community can understand and use. Importantly, our Learning Process model has been designed from the ground up by staff and students. Our thinking was action researched and built on contemporary learning theories & practices. Ownership of the design and process were key to the speed of implementation and change of practice.

Learners can identify and describe which part of the Learning Process they are in and why they are there. Our Learner Traits are important skills, which learners can draw upon when they are in any part of the Learning Process to overcome obstacles and be the best learner that they can be.

iPad Apps are used to embed strategies and skills, but more importantly students are able to record and share their learning with both their peers and their teachers. Learners can capture the process and reflect and revisit their wonderings and learnings.

'Knowing what to do when learners don't know what to do is a valued part of the Learning Process'

We equip learners with traits necessary for their school life and real world contexts. Our school values each learner's passions and aims to develop students' confidence, knowledge, understanding, appreciation, curiosity and most of all a love of learning.

'Learners are motivated and engaged in their learning, developing independent Learner Traits - collaboration, initiative, tolerance, curiosity, creativity and determination - and take responsibility for their own process of learning. Discovery Learning encourages autonomous lifelong learners'

AN EDUCATION WORTH HAVING

We believe, an education worth having is built on authentic learning experiences, fun and creativity. Learning is designed where students curiosity is harnessed, their talents are valued and most of all formed around genuine relationships with teachers, students and parents.

By teaching students how to justify, articulate and record their thinking process, we are encouraging students to value the process of learning, not just the end product or answer. When students can adapt the known to the unknown and transfer learning from one context to another, they are demonstrating their ability to use their knowledge and skills in multiple situations and are therefore beginning to operate as a true lifelong learner.

TEACHERS

Are learners, creators, thinkers themselves : first and foremost
Embed deep learning, thinking and questioning in their practice
Are risk takers and learners through collaborative professional learning conversations
Use iPad powerfully to teach creativity, collaboration, design and story

STUDENTS

Have ownership of their learning
Are given choice, voice and freedom to learn by discovery
Question, wonder, make, build, test, trial, fail, do, act, create, collaborate
Use iPad powerfully to make, create and share learning

QUESTIONS

How do we use technology to make learning more powerful?
How does the Learning Process drive deeper thinking?
Discovery Learning is a way to enact and make our learning process visible to students.

PUBLICATION

Learning Process iBook Link- <https://itun.es/au/6R8e5.l>