



Top Tips for School Improvement

20 Suggestions for Instant gains

01.

Keep things simple. Know what works for your children in the context of your school.

02.

Be honest. Explain why you must focus on particular areas. Encourage suggestions on how to do this from others.

03.

Prioritise. What should you concentrate on this term or year?

04.

Set expectations. Stick to them. Communicate these daily to your team and the school.

05.

Be patient. Achieving significant change takes time. Think long-term but look for short-term successes to keep everyone motivated.

06.

Know why you are doing what you do. Keep believing in this.

07.

Work out where to gather the evidence you need about specific areas such as safeguarding, teaching, learning and assessment and leadership and management performance.

08.

Don't avoid difficult conversations. They are going to happen, so make sure you have the skills to deal with them effectively.

09.

Look for ways to bring together experience and evidence-based practice. They are both central to any school improvement.

10.

Create a culture of teaching improvement by encouraging teachers to talk about their work and reflect on their practice.

11.

Seek feedback. It's essential if you want to establish in your school a culture of 'honesty'.

12.

Student and staff behaviour are both vital to achieving improvement. Set out what you expect from each.

13.

Keep assessments simple. If a tool doesn't help teachers, stop using it.

14.

Focus on what has most impact. Stick to achieving your main goals. Don't get side-tracked by anything that dilutes them.

15.

Marking and feedback can help pupils get better. Use it when appropriate.

16.

Spend greatest effort on creating a core curriculum that helps pupils learn better and not just pass exams. Continually look for curriculum gaps and plug them.

17.

Create opportunities for children to demonstrate their achievements and uniqueness frequently.

18.

Everyone can be better at what they do. Help those you work with be all they can be

19.

Keep your ear to the ground. Listen...A lot!

20.

If it needs doing ... do it!