



The Oratory R.C. Primary and Nursery School

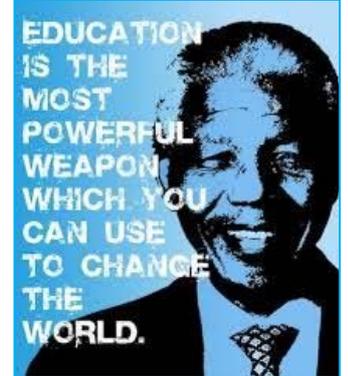
‘Shine as to be a light to others’



Oratory REAL Projects

Introducing our approach to learning at the Oratory:

1. **REAL** Project based learning refers to our children designing, planning, and carrying out an extended project over a 10 – 12 week period that produces a publicly-exhibited display such as a product, publication, or presentation. It is related to critical thinking, enquiry-based learning and problem-based learning. The distinctive feature of **REAL** project based learning is the publicly-exhibited finale of a body of work.
2. The Oratory have chosen to focus on **REAL** project-based learning because it incorporates enquiry, and in our experience when our children have had the opportunity to ‘showcase’ their learning in a variety of ways i.e. performance, creation of a product, assembly, demonstration or had work published, they have become more motivated and engaged which has resulted in even greater progress.



The Key Principles for successful **REAL** Projects:

- All of our children are capable of excellence!
- Our children’s work matters beyond just grades and exams – we are developing lifelong learners with inquisitive minds.
- Our school is a community of learners – all staff and children learn with and from each other.

Keeping it **REAL** at the Oratory

Rigorous

CHILDREN engage with the subject content by using reasoning, analysis, critical thinking, problem solving skills and reflection.

TEACHERS tune/refine projects and test projects themselves before starting the project with the children.

Engaging

CHILDREN understand the purpose of their learning more fully.

TEACHERS create exciting learning experiences that uses challenge based immersive learning with projects that are purposeful and relevant to the real world.

Authentic

CHILDREN share their work with a public audience, in school and the wider community.

TEACHERS develop projects which promote the development of life skills and afford the opportunity to tackle real life issues.

Learning

CHILDREN are driven to learn because they see the purpose through the lens of an essential question.

TEACHERS are learning from the children, adapting projects where necessary in addition to seeking advice and suggestions from their peers within the Oratory, local, national and international community.

What do REAL projects include?

1. An Essential Question

Children will be able to explore their essential question over a period of time.

2. Significant Content

The content promotes deeper thinking to ensure purposeful learning.

3. Multiple Drafts and Critique

Critique (self and peer assessment) is an essential part of **REAL** projects. It supports deeper thinking, target work, critical thinking and helps to promote beautiful work. Time is planned into **REAL** projects for this to happen effectively and to allow for significant impact.

4. Final Product, Presentation, Performance or Publication

The children play an essential role in finalising and creating outcomes. They have input into how they would like to display their work, improve upon it and how it can be transformed into beautiful work.

5. Authentic Audience

Each **REAL** project has an authentic audience throughout to ensure a real world purpose. The audiences promote improved engagement amongst the children.

6. Public Exhibition

Each **REAL** project will have an exhibition at the end. Children will present their work, completing Presentations of Learning (POL's). This can be shared with the school, and beyond in the wider community.