



Cyngor Addysgu Cyffredinol Cymru
General Teaching Council for Wales

Statement of Professional Values and Practice

The Statement of Professional Values and Practice seeks to:

- set out clear standards of professional conduct and practice to which registered teachers aspire;
- be a supportive document which assists teachers in their normal working lives;
- assist in the process of maintaining and raising standards of conduct and practice;
- enhance the public's perception of teachers;
- align teaching with other professions;
- offer guidance to teachers and employers.

The Statement of Professional Values and Practice builds on the Qualified Teacher Status standards:

General Principles

Teaching is an important and demanding occupation in which the pace of change is rapid. Registered teachers in Wales are responsive to these changes and they strive to conduct themselves with integrity and apply to best affect their skills and knowledge within their professional work. There is no one definitive characteristic profile of an effective teacher. Teachers are individuals and can achieve success using different combinations of characteristics. They have important and crucial roles in educating, influencing and nurturing pupils to prepare them to become responsible citizens who take a full part in local, national and international society.

Statement of Professional Values and Practice

Teachers acknowledge the need for mutual accountability and commitment from all partners in achieving shared aspirations and goals. They are committed to providing equal opportunities to pupils, colleagues and others with whom they come into professional contact, regardless of gender, ethnicity, age, religion and beliefs, special needs, sexual orientation and linguistic background.

Registered teachers aspire to the following characteristics and practices:

Teaching and Learning

Teachers aim for the highest professional standards by planning and organising their work effectively. They teach individuals and groups of pupils to best effect, using a range of approaches. They recognise the importance of setting challenging yet realistic goals and of explaining clearly to pupils what is expected of them. Teachers make effective use of the information they gather from a wide range of internal and external assessments of pupils, adapting the learning experiences of pupils on the basis of individual needs and progress.

Pupils

Teachers understand the diverse learning needs of pupils and provide the best possible education for them to maximise their potential, whatever their individual aspirations, personal circumstances or backgrounds. In doing so, teachers demonstrate combinations of professional characteristics, dependent on the individual teacher and particular situation, which aim to motivate

and inspire pupils and secure their intellectual and personal development. The professionalism demonstrated by teachers ensures that relationships with pupils are built on mutual trust and respect.

Colleagues

Teachers support, and cooperate with, their colleagues to maintain effective and professional working relationships. They share their views, experience and expertise with colleagues, seeking and valuing the ideas and insights of others, for the benefit of pupils. They are sensitive to the need, where appropriate, for confidentiality.

Parents/Guardians

Teachers respect the uniqueness of each pupil's family background. They recognise the importance of communicating information and expectations clearly to parents/guardians and of fostering positive relationships between the home and school. Teachers strive to gain parents'/guardians' support in their children's learning and behaviour, and consider their views when making decisions. Teachers endeavour to promote the place of the school within the community.

Other Professionals

Teachers recognise the contribution provided by, and needed from other professionals in the learning process. As appropriate, they collaborate with and provide leadership to others in the wider school workforce, in the best interests of the pupil and the school.

Professional Development

Teachers maintain up-to-date professional knowledge, understanding and skills and they reflect on their own practice. They recognise their own needs and take responsibility for their continuing professional development, taking advantage of the range of opportunities available to them. Teachers contribute to the wider development of the school and the profession.