

Using the learning spaces: general class spaces



The elements of each room are flexible - the furniture can be moved and arranged in different ways. It is intentional that the rooms change, and offer variety throughout the year

Often children will be engaged in a carousel of activities - sometimes working together sometimes working quietly alone, sometimes presenting to others, sometimes using the large interactive screens. Think of the learning space as having zones for different activities with the class doing different activities in each zone.

Of course, sometimes you will want to work with the whole class, direct instruction for the whole class is also a normal function of these spaces, although that would not normally be for all of the time.

Older children will have slightly different versions of their learning spaces - age appropriate colours and sizes as you see here - but the principle of use will remain the same as children progress through the school.

- 1 many of the surfaces are writeable - for teachers and children to share and show work. Normal whiteboard pens will work and wipe, well.
- 2 these interlocking seats can be easily assembled in front of the big interactive screen and, with the other seeing options, can seat the whole class directly in front of you. Ideal for when the teacher needs to give whole class instruction, or for plenary activity at the end of a task.
- 3 we seek to encourage movement - it is good for brains - and everything from "wobble" stools to furniture that can be climbed on for seating is here
- 4 there is no teacher's desk but there is a teacher's podium which can move around and store important items safely too
- 5 the large SMART screen is interactive - you can also connect your own computer tablet or phone to it! It has a good viewing angle from the sides, so that students down need to be directly in front of it bright and light. We will keep all the learning spaces tighter than 500 lux.
- 6 we seek to keep the light levels above 500 lux to optimise brain performance so ceiling lighting as well as natural light are important to the room.
- 7 the plants have two important research based purposes to reduce CO2 and help "clean" the classroom air, but also to "soften" the space and make it more welcoming. Keeping the plants alive is important. They can also be a focus for learning - growth, nutrients, moisture, replication and more.

