

# Improving Learning

## Active Learning

- enabling pupils to **engage** with learning.
- encouraging pupils to take **responsibility** for their learning.

### Strategies could include:

- collaborative learning
- discussion
- role play
- think/pair/share
- investigating

**But if the strategy does not engage pupils in learning or get them to take responsibility for their own learning then it is not active learning.**

## Collaborative learning

- creating an environment where pupils **think and talk together** about their learning.

### Strategies could include:

- group investigation and presentation
- groups working on puzzles
- think/pair/share
- gathering answers with mini-whiteboards
- carousel activities

**But if the strategy does not provide opportunities for pupils to think and talk together about their learning then it is not collaborative learning.**

## Closing the Gap

- defining learning intentions & success criteria and sharing these with pupils.
- assessing pupil performance against learning intentions and success criteria.
- using the information gained to guide next steps in learning and close the learning gap.

### Strategies could include:

- verbal or written comments when assessing pupils' work
- providing class time to reflect on comments and identify next steps
- using questions to establish gaps in learning
- self or peer assessment against success criteria and identification of next steps

**But if the strategy does not lead to action by teachers or pupils to meet learning intentions and success criteria then it has not helped to close the (learning) gap.**

### Questioning strategies include:

- gathering answers on mini-whiteboards
- chains of questions
- true/false
- which are the same ?/which are different ?

Effective questions help teachers and pupils to close the learning gap.