

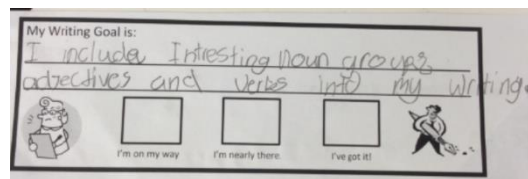
Learning Goals



Goldilocks wanted the porridge that was not too hot and not too cold, but just right! This is called The Goldilocks Principle, and we apply it when we are deciding a Learning Goal for every child in the class – one that is not too hard to reach, but not too easy that it provides no challenge.

A *Learning Goal* is a specific, next step challenge that is individualised for every child. These *Learning Goals* focus thinking and provide a criteria for success, which aims to motivate children to work towards their goals.

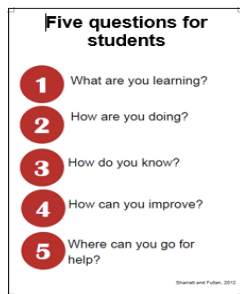
Learning Goals must be highly visible to the children and referred to constantly. You will see learning goals displayed around our classrooms in many different ways by our creative Mapleton teachers. Here are some examples.



| |
|--|
| Name |
| My learning goal is |
| |
| |
| Wow! You've reached your goal. Tell someone at home what you can do. |
| Parent/Carer signature: |
| 👉👉👉👉 |
| I can do this easily without being reminded. |
| 👉👉👉 |
| I am remembering to do this most of the time. |
| 👉👉 |
| I am doing this but I need reminding sometimes. |
| 👉 |
| I am beginning to do this. |

Why have Learning Goals?

Research tells us that children learn best when they know exactly what it is that they need to know or do, and start from the point at which they already know - this is called the 'next steps'. Teachers and children use many sources to work out what the next steps are and these include:



- * Marking and feedback from teachers. This can be written or verbal feedback.
- * Checklists – this gives the students clear criteria and shows the 'next steps'
- * GTMJ's – Guide to Making Judgements. These are marking sheets that teachers use to assess the students' progress and report to parents.
- * 5 Questions for Students. This resource helps students to work towards their goals.

How can I help at home?

- Ask your child what their learning goals are and what they are working on to help achieve that.
- Communicate regularly with your child's teacher and find out ways that you can help support your child with their goal.
- Encourage your child to put in effort and respond to feedback as they work on their learning goal. This links to the growth mindset and knowing how their brain works.