Depth of Learning Information Leaflet

You will regularly receive an update on the progress that your child has made. Next to their assessment path and stage you will notice a hashtag rating e.g. #1, #2, #3, #4. The following information will explain what a hashtag rating is, how it is judged and why we feel that this is an important part of teaching and learning at Hillside.

What is depth of learning?

The DFE (Department for Education) has added weight to a child's ability to apply their learning- this is called Depth of Learning or Mastery. Depth of learning is how a child can apply much of the curriculum as a whole in more in-depth, complex, and cross curricula situations. The depth of learning aspect is important as it is included in the design and marking schemes of the KS1 and KS2 SATs and is an important second measure of the abilities of a child to demonstrate how well they have learned something and whether they can apply it in different ways.

What is the difference between a hashtag 1 and a hashtag 4?

It is important that as a school we can judge whether a child is on track to achieve the expected standard for their age. Using the following depth of learning ratings we can judge a child's Depth of learning alongside their basic understanding of key objectives. This gives an accurate picture of assessment for all children in key stage 1 and 2.

Depth and application of learning- Dept of learning rating			
Shallow Learner #1	Expected Depth #2	Deeper Learner #3	Deepest Learner #4
This is below the expected standard depth of application and understanding.	This is the expected standard depth of application and understanding.	This is above the expected standard depth of application and understanding.	This is well above the expected standard depth of application and understanding.
Learns objectives in isolation and does not apply this learning.	Average application of learning. Makes simple connections between their learning.	Good application of learning; makes many connections	Very good application of learning; makes connections easily and fluidly.
Example:	Example:	Example:	Example:
A child is taught number facts to 10- which they succeed in.	A child is taught number facts to 10- which they succeed in.	A child is taught number facts to 10- which they succeed in.	A child is taught number facts to 10- which they succeed in.
A week later, the child can still recall the number facts fluently but they find using these facts outside of the use of number lines challenging.	A week later, the child remembers these number facts fluently and can use them in different orders to solve problems.	A week later, the child remembers these number facts fluently and when introduced to flipping or reversing the facts, grasps this and uses it to write out a string of new facts.	Before you finish this lesson, this child is teaching their partner some backward number facts. After the weekend this child comes in to school with an idea- if you reverse the facts they answer the questions on missing numbers that they were looking at during the previous week.

Will my child move between the hashtag ratings?

A child's depth of learning rating is a long term judgement and will not fluctuate and change each term. In fact, over a child's lifetime at Hillside, there may be only one or two occasions when the rating will change. This is because the hashtag ratings is judged across all areas of a subject and across many connected objectives across a key stage; this will only change once the overall application of a subject is better/worse.