

School/ Name: Beckford Primary School, Louise Kwa

Heading: Chinese Takeaways

TfM Big Idea(s):

ALL OF THEM!

Chinese Takeaway

Summary of initiative:

In November 2019 I travelled to China with the NCETM and DfE to engage in an exchange with teachers in Shanghai primary schools. I saw lessons in two different schools, one in the centre of Shanghai and one on the outskirts of the city, with two very different intakes. These are my (summarised) takeaways from the experience.

Context: teachers' daily timetables allow for planning and effective same day intervention, teachers are subject specialists and have had access to world class ITT in their training year and daily in their NQT year, children have 'free time' timetabled in which they can choose to do homework and extra investigation, school day is longer than in the UK.



Key learning and impact:

- Huge emphasis on prerequisite knowledge during planning the learning experiences. All teachers know the progression of the whole curriculum and learning journey.
- Importance of a blocked curriculum (teach it once, teach it properly). Health warning: revision, practise and consolidation necessary to ensure effective memorisation.
- Slower pace allows for deeper learning. $3 \times 4 = 12$. What does the 3 represent? What does the 4 represent? What does the 12 represent? Why?
Example 1. Pattern lesson.
- Importance of teaching the concept through experiences rather than stand-alone knowledge.
Example 2. Teaching the concept of a tally.
Example 3. Formula and equation venn.
- Calculating vs Comparing
- Placing maths in a context that actually reveals the structure and relevance to our lives rather than shoe horning in our current theme.
Example 4. Circles lesson – UN table
Example 5. Patterns using fingers and spaces (prerequisite to drawing numberlines)

Top tips for another school:

- Get involved in an NCETM teaching for mastery workgroup (if you haven't already).
- Have a go at using the NCETM spine materials to expose the structures of mathematics in your lessons.

Any web links, images etc.

- Watch this example of a wonderful lesson on circles: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16pphPJKTfM>
- NCETM website: <https://www.ncetm.org.uk/teaching-for-mastery/mastery-explained/>
- NCETM spine materials <https://www.ncetm.org.uk/resources/50639>