

Magenta Principles™



The Magenta Principles is an umbrella phrase coined by Mike Hughes, a well-known and highly acclaimed education trainer and author. Magenta Principles refers to a philosophy and an approach to teaching based upon the premise that learning should be both exciting and engaging.

Presentation College is currently in training with Mike Hughes to embed the Magenta Principles into our classrooms. Currently four teachers have completed Year One of Magenta training with four more teachers to begin their training in September 2019.

In a nutshell, the Magenta Principles™ is an umbrella phrase that refers to a philosophy and an approach to teaching based upon the premise that learning should be both exciting and engaging. More specifically the phrase represents a pedagogy underpinned by an unshakeable belief that:

- learning is the consequence of thinking... therefore our job is to get students to think
- language is central to thinking... therefore our job is to get students to talk
- learning is an active process... therefore our job is to get students doing

In order to make sense of the information that comes their way, students have to do something to/with it. Receiving it, retaining it and eventually regurgitating it is insufficient – in short they have to think about it! The receive, retain and regurgitate approach may get a child through an examination hoop but it will not develop a deep understanding and while all teachers want to help children pass exams some of us want much more – we want them to get it, get why they got it and, as much as anything, enjoy it!

The question therefore becomes, what are students required to do to/with the information they encounter in the classroom? It is central to the approach and the answer gives us The Magenta Principles™ – children could be asked to reduce it, change it, assemble it, add to it, arrange it, sequence it, classify it... the list goes on and on."