

Welcome to the Summer 2023 Edition of the HPL Hub. In this issue, we reflect on our first year as part of the Federation of Global Schools (FGS) within the HPL family and look across the Academy at how HPL is impacting our learning and lives.

1.



HPL AROUND THE ACADEMY



Handsworth Wood Girls' School classrooms are enriched with the use of HPLs and ACPs, providing an engaging and stimulating educational environment. HPL is integrated into our daily lessons, focusing on developing our critical thinking skills, fostering resilience, promoting creativity, and nurturing independent learning. In addition, our school offers ACPs catered to students. These programs provide us with opportunities for accelerated learning, including specialised coursework, projects, and enrichment activities. Because of these, we can delve deeper into subjects and pursue our passions at an advanced level. Our teachers encourage us to use these to explore topics in depth, ask thought-provoking questions, and seek innovative solutions. This approach empowers us to become active participants in our own learning.

Moreover, technology plays a vital role in our classrooms, with usage of iPads to enhance our learning experiences. iPads are used as tools to access digital resources, conduct research, and further our study. This integration of technology helps us develop digital literacy skills and prepares us for the digital age while complementing our traditional classroom instruction.

Additionally, HPL and ACPs are reinforced through visual cues in our classrooms, with 75% classrooms adorned with HPL/ACP and VAA posters. These posters serve as constant reminders of the key principles and benefits, reinforcing our commitment to growth, excellence, and continuous improvement. The utilisation of HPL and ACPs in classrooms, along with the presence of informative posters, creates a dynamic and inclusive learning environment. It challenges us to think critically, expand our knowledge, and pursue academic excellence. Through these, we are equipped with the skills and mindset necessary to thrive academically and in the real-world.

(Layla B. Y10 and Zainab C. Y8)

ACP SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT

Nimat S. Y8 and Yan Yi W. Y10 conducted an ACP Subject Spotlight...

In my opinion, the ACPs have a big impact on subjects and how you can explore them. One subject that does showcase ACPs well is science and a lot of ACPs are linked to it like Self-Regulation which is to be able to rectify and learn from your mistakes though this could be applied to every single subject. Likewise there is Connection Finding which is where you use previous knowledge to help you further with the next lesson. (Nimat)

How does geography affect HPL?

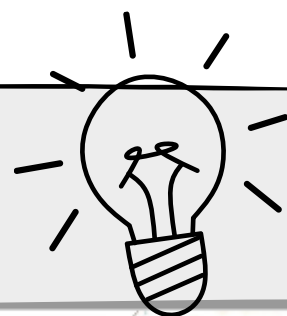
Concern for society: Demonstrates empathy that you genuinely care about society, encourages good and happy lives for its members, and explores and understands the surroundings while recognising the stark contrasts between cultures, political systems, economies, landscapes, and environments around the world and their connections. worried about several regions of the planet.

Many areas, including EDI, demonstrate concern for society.

Enquiring: To learn on our own and obtain knowledge, we need to enquire to become independent learners. controlling our own learning to form our own viewpoints at various times.

Enquiring- to become an independent learner we need to enquire to learn through mistakes and gain knowledge. Regulation of their own learning to develop their own perspectives on various occasions. (Yan Yi)

2.

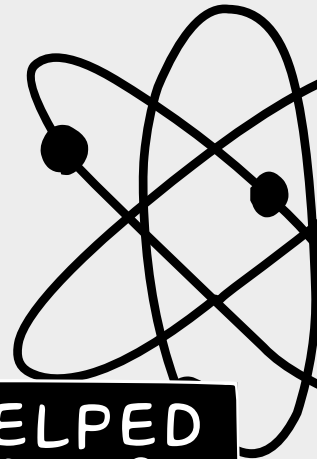
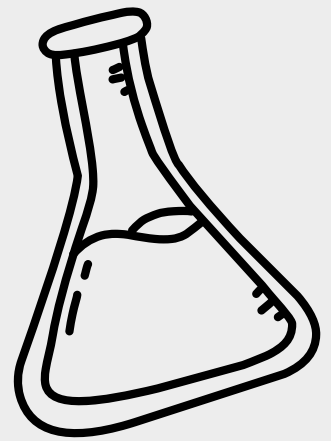


3.

ACPS IN THE CLASSROOM

The use of ACPS in classroom's has helped students immensely in their learning throughout the academic year. It has become a way for students to understand that each attribute they display around the academy has an ACP correlating to it making it even more meaningful for the students that display these attributes. The use of ACPS around the academy has helped students understand the meaning behind never giving up and has ensured that students know to keep trying whenever they are faced with any hardships in life. It has helped students know that anyone can become intellectually confident individual's no matter where they think their capabilities stop.

(Husnaa A. Y9)



4.

HOW HAVE ACPS HELPED STUDENTS TO LEARN?



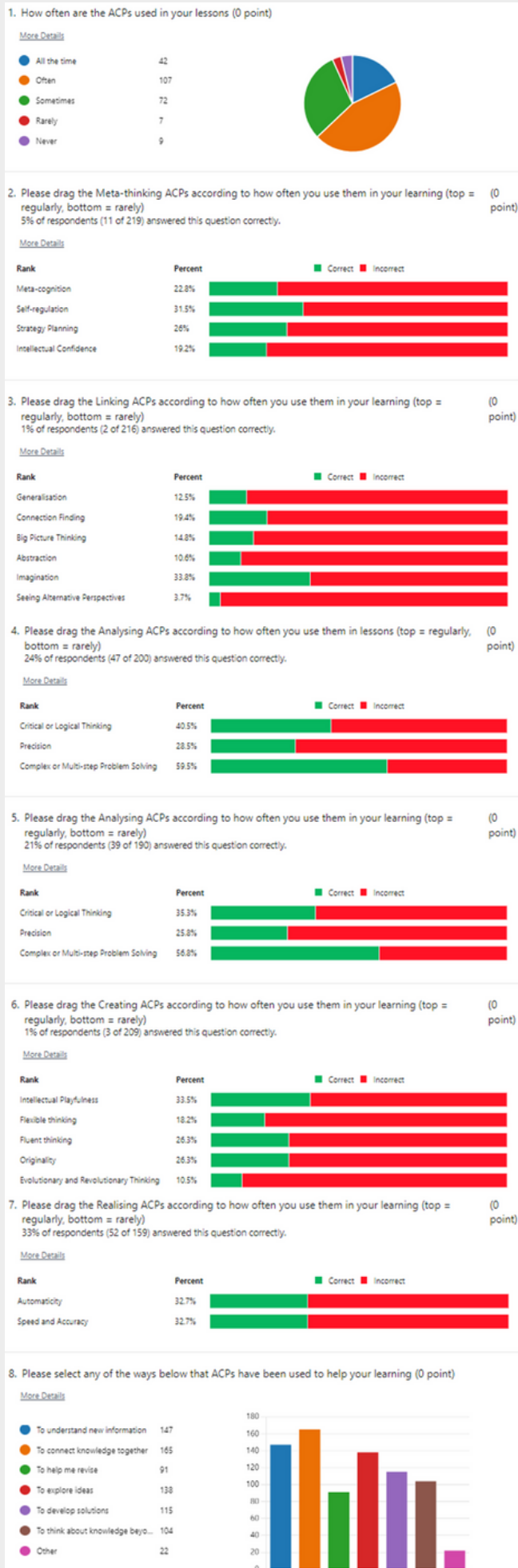
The ACPS have significantly boosted the students' confidence in their learning and has made them aware of the responsibility they have over their own learning with skills such as automaticity. The ACPS help our students to learn as they are a great motivator and a constant reminder for them to do better in class and in their work. When teachers highlight the ACPS that are being used in a lesson it allows the students to understand what skill they are using or learning to use is called and how to improve. For example, connection finding allows students to think back to past lessons and link past information to current information to form a judgement. We use the ACPS as a learning device that makes us aware of what we need to work on and what our strengths are. Being a high-performance learner does not mean that you always get the best grades, it just means that you are aware of what you can do, and you strive to become better.

(Faiza K. Y9)



SNAPSHOTS FROM OUR SURVEYS...

Feedback from students



Feedback from teachers

Q. Why do you think it is important for teachers to use the ACPs for learning?

- "They really help build cognitive links in my subject"
- "So students are...more confident and motivated."
- "(So) students connect their learning across subjects"
- "It improves the students' performance at school when they make connections between knowledge and skills they have acquired in different subjects as well as between recent lesson content and topics previously covered in the same subject."
- "It ensures students are consistently and rigorously supported to develop the cognitive characteristics and learner behaviours that lead to success."
- "To help students access learning in a way they are familiar. To build up their skills across the school rather than just in one particular subject."
- "It helps students to become the best learners that they can be."
- "ACPs are the keys to unlock the curriculum, skills, characteristics and methods to unlock the learning taking place."
- "They are a great tool when approaching more complex tasks. ACPs guide students on how to approach tasks (for example connection finding when matching vocabulary can be done in different steps when: looking at cognates --> linking to prior learning or other languages --> looking at context and sentence)."

Q. How do you think HPL makes our Academy different from other schools?

- "The idea that every student can achieve higher despite of abilities - it doesn't exist the concept of sets and every student is treated the same in their aspiration."
- "It helps in students actively using skills and acknowledging how to effectively use them."
- "It enable the students to develop scholarly values and creates an environment of capability from which success soon follows."
- "I think it really supports with the planning and skills that students are using. I am able to use the HPL ACPs to support the teaching of content and skills in History. This makes it different to other schools where there is less structure and consistency across all departments."
- "It sets up students with the skills to become better learners to reach their potential."

Any other comments?

- "HPL gives students a real edge over other students nationally"
- "HPL supports students to be successful life-long learners."
- "HPL can be used in all subjects at different times, some are used more than others depending on the topic"

Last thoughts...(Aisha D Y7)

So far, whilst I have been in this High Performance Learning (HPL) drive team, I have experienced a lot more of how we can involve HPL and our Advanced Cognitive Performance Characteristics (ACPs) in our everyday life preparing us for later on in our future and I have made sure to familiarise myself with them and I have definitely made sure to demonstrate them more or more seriously than when I first started in the academy and I believe I have actually given the time to include them in my lessons. When you say HPL, the first few things that come to my head is positive personal traits and things we might want to follow to improve preparing us for the future.

My Experience and Views on HPL:

So far, we have focused on things like:

Interviews- In these interviews, we discuss with a range of people of how we use HPL in our school and we inform them about how it has impacted us. We usually focus on mentioning how it helps us not just now but for when we grow up and face the real world and our future lives

Meetings- Not just meetings with others from outside but also coming together in school and sharing our ideas of what we think should happen which can be helpful

Going around schools and filling in forms- This is also a really effective way into improving ourselves and helps us demonstrate more of our school rules such as Strategic Planning which is key. This can also be nice if you go with someone cause you also demonstrating the value, collaborative, also helping us getting to know others.

HPL, like I have said, has helped me progress slowly and slowly making me more motivated in lesson and making sure I can demonstrate them so that I can progress. It is best if we do this as it can help us now and get us ready for the world that is beyond us.

What students and staff have said about HPL:

So far this shows that HPL is used quite a bit of time which can be said to be a positive thing as students will then start to familiarise themselves more about their ACP'S and as some data has been collected, teachers have realised that HPL has helped student to gain knowledge and confidence for certain topics and perform well in it and can still help students who might need that confidence to progress too gradually. New teachers have also said that they have never had a value system like this and agree that it is a really effective way of students staying on track and keeping up hard work.



META-THINKING	
	Meta-cognition
	Self-regulation
	Strategy-planning
	Intellectual confidence
LINKING	
	Generalisation
	Connection finding
	Big picture thinking
	Abstraction
	Imagination
	Seeing alternative perspectives
ANALYSING	
	Critical or logical thinking
	Precision
	Complex and multi-step problem solving
CREATING	
	Intellectual playfulness
	Flexible Thinking
	Fluent thinking
	Originality
	Evolutionary and revolutionary thinking
REALISING	
	Automaticity
	Speed and accuracy

Thank you for your continued support of High Performance Learning (HPL) at the Academy - together, we can unlock our children's futures'

READ MORE AT <https://www.hwga.org.uk/high-performance-learning/>

WHICH ACPS?

