



1. LEARNING INTENTIONS

Purpose: Let students know (in a language they can understand) what they are expected to learn.

When students have a clear understanding of what is expected, the stage is set for effective learning to take place. For them to be part of their own learning they need to know what it is they are to learn.

Take time to explain and demonstrate to students, in a language they can understand, what they are expected to learn. These terms are often referred to as - the **learning intention** or **learning destination**. If students have a clear understanding of the 'game' and the 'goalpost' – they have a better chance of experiencing success.

“When students know the destination they are more likely to arrive.”
Stiggins

Primary:

1. Posting the Agenda/Shape of the Day
2. The agenda should focus on what the students will learn, not the activities of the day
3. Discussing the Agenda together at the beginning of the day, and reflecting on it together at the end of the day

Intermediate:

1. Learning Destination Cards or Lists
2. Traffic Signal stickers or colours used by students on an established criteria list to indicate understanding (periodically) of the intentions

Secondary:

1. Learning Intentions posted on the wall
2. Learning Intentions included in the course outline

B. What are some other strategies that might work for explaining learning intentions?

Sources: Black & Wiliam, 2005; Cameron et al, 2006; Davies, 2003; Developing Readers, 2007; Sutton et al, 2006.