

CNMS SCHOOL POLICIES

VARK Learning Styles



C.N.M. School & N.D. Parekh Pre-Primary School

The school conducts the VARK learning style questionnaire to analyse student's preferred style of learning and customises lesson plans to address student's learning needs.

Information on VARK Learning Styles:

VARK began in 1987. The publication that launched VARK was:

Title: Not Another Inventory, Rather a Catalyst for Reflection

Published in: To Improve the Academy, Vol. 11, 1992, Page 137.

Authors: Neil D. Fleming and Colleen Mills both at Lincoln University, Canterbury, New Zealand

The acronym VARK stands for Visual, Aural, Read/write, and Kinaesthetic sensory modalities refers to the different learning styles we as humans have when learning new information. Individuals are identified by the style they identify with the most when learning. Fleming and Mills (1992) suggested four modalities that seemed to reflect the experiences of the students and teachers. Although there is some overlap between them they are defined as follows.

Visual (V):

This preference includes the depiction of information in charts, graphs, flow charts, and all the symbolic arrows, circles, hierarchies and other devices that teachers use to represent what might have been presented in words. Layout, whitespace, headings, patterns, designs and colour are important in establishing meaning. Learners with a strong visual preference are more aware of their immediate environment and their place in space.

Aural (A):

This perceptual mode describes a preference for information that is spoken or heard. Learners with this modality report that they learn best from discussion, oral feedback, email, cell phone chat, texting, discussion boards, oral presentations, classes, tutorials, and talking with other students and teachers.

Read/Write (R):

This preference is for information displayed as words either read or written. Typically, it means those who prefer textbooks. Not surprisingly, many academics and high-achieving learners have a strong preference for this modality.

These learners place importance on precision in language and are keen to use quotes, lists, texts, books and manuals. They have a strong reverence for words.

Kinaesthetic (K):

By definition, this modality refers to the "perceptual preference related to the use of experience and practice (simulated or real)." Although such an experience may use other modalities, the key part of any definition is that the learner is connected to reality, "either through experience, example, practice or simulation,"

How Parents can use VARK learning model to help their child?

Observe and understand your child's predominant style of learning in depth

Create a pool of resources to support your child's learning to motivate. If the child prefers reading, have a library of books for his/her reading

Collaborate with the teacher to explore ways of engaging the child and create a stimulating environment.

The child can have a combination of two to three learning styles so do not limit your resources to one particular style

Support the child to be self-independent and self-reliant.

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