

Adaptive Teaching

Education

Adjusting to what pupils show, rather than pre-sorting them by task.

Old differentiation

- Different tasks set in advance
- Groups fixed by prior attainment
- Lower groups get less demanding content
- Three sets of resources to prepare
- Risk: the ceiling is set before the lesson

Adaptive teaching

- Same ambitious goal for the class
- Support varied in response to checks
- Scaffolds added and removed during the lesson
- One resource, with optional support
- Grouping is flexible and temporary

THE DIFFERENCE THAT MATTERS

Adapt the route, not the destination. Persistent lower-demand work is the main mechanism by which gaps widen inside a classroom.

Educational reference. Some pupils genuinely need different content; that decision belongs in a plan agreed with specialists, not to a lesson's