



CHARACTER EDUCATION CURRICULUM

STATEMENT OF INTENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPACT

INTENT

At St Chad's Church of England Primary School, we provide a 'Character Education' curriculum which is integral to our academic work, whilst providing for wider personal development. Character Education is the umbrella term we use for: our school values; British values; PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education); SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of our world); Cultural Capital (where children accumulate the knowledge, behaviours and skills to demonstrate cultural awareness, knowledge and competence); Social Action (involving practical action in the service of others); RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education), which teaches all children to be safe both in the real and digital world (e-safety), and to understand and develop healthy relationships. Our Character Education curriculum gives pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to develop confident, healthy (physically and mentally) independent lives and to become informed, active, responsible citizens. Pupil voice is very active in school with a variety of pupil councils, which enable and encourage children to engage in decision making and influence their own lives in school. The Character Education curriculum is under-pinned by our school motto 'Building together with Jesus for a better future' and school values, which are a real and living entity in our school.

IMPLEMENTATION

Our Character Education curriculum is delivered both explicitly as stand-alone lessons, and implicitly through our wider curricular opportunities, something our school is particularly strong in. We provide an extensive range of opportunities for our children to nurture their ability to become socially active citizens who can make a difference: we support charities at a local, national and international level and such events are always well supported. We engage the expertise of outside visitors to support our teaching and nurturing of the children: such visitors include, but are not limited to, the NSPCC, Young Carers, the police, members of our community and colleagues from local high schools to deliver lessons in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Our plans for discrete lessons follow the Entrust scheme of work which follows a main theme for each half-term, and has been amended to reflect the RSHE 2020 statutory curriculum. The main themes include work on: health and well-being, including mental health; living in the wider world, and relationships. Aspects of the character curriculum are supported by our work in Science, Physical Education and across the themed curriculum topics such as 'Year 3/4 Fitness Academy and 'Year 5/6 Read all about it', which develops children's understanding of national, international and global issues.

In Early Years and KS1, the children begin to learn about their own and other people's feeling and become aware of the views, needs and rights of other children and older people, they also start to develop social skills including sharing, taking turns, helping others, resolving simple arguments and resisting bullying. In KS2 the children then build on these skills as they become more mature, independent and self-confident; they learn how to take part more fully in school and community activities and as they begin to develop into young adults, face the changes of puberty and make more confident and informed choices about their health and relationships.

To assess the understanding and acquisition of skills, children are asked questions which promote deeper thinking in lessons and, as they move through the school, are exposed to Philosophy for Children (P4C) sessions where they are encouraged to share their opinions in order to demonstrate understanding and express their views. Monitoring of the teaching of Character Education is undertaken by the co-ordinator who completes planning checks and looks at evidence in books to see it matches and achieves lesson objectives, this is done to guide us in the development of the curriculum and to plan and support the next steps of learning.

IMPACT

Following a successful implementation of the Character Education curriculum through quality first teaching, and a broad and balanced curriculum, children will:

- Be equipped with the personal, social and health knowledge to lead confident, healthy, independent lives.
- Demonstrate and apply our school values of honesty, respect, belonging, kindness, commitment, independence and empathy.
- Understand and follow the core British values of democracy, rule of law, mutual respect and individual liberty.
- Be able to develop positive and healthy relationships with their peers, and others both now and in the future.
- Understand the physical aspects of RHSE at age appropriate level and have respect for themselves and others.
- Be safe online and know how to identify when they, or others, are in danger and report this to someone who can help.
- Have a developed knowledge of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of life in a developing and fast moving world.
- Understand their cultural capital - the essential knowledge that they need to prepare them for their future success.
- Have a thorough understanding of mental health and be able to identify when they or other people are struggling and seek appropriate support where necessary.
- Be socially active citizens, in support of others.