

CHARACTER EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Intent

At Brunel, our character education curriculum aims to play a part in shaping the character of our children. It aims to engage and guide children in situations of moral decision and thus build good moral sense. We build in our children the ability to recognise the value of virtue and to exemplify this in their own lives.

We believe that educating children in the building of virtue is desirable and achievable and aim to give children the tools to make sound moral decisions by practising how to live well in the real world around them.

“We are what we repeatedly do.” Aristotle.

Implementation

Our curriculum draws upon the Jubilee Centre for Character Education’s Primary Programme of Study. It is acquired in and out of the classroom and is developed beyond the school gates. Although Character Education can be taught through some stand-alone lessons it is mainly integrated into our core curriculum. Character is developed through all subjects, extra-curricular activities and during assemblies. Character is acquired through the role modelling of teachers and built into our reward system.

Character education is not taught as a ‘lesson.’ Rather, each of the focus virtues is intrinsically woven into the work of the school during the half-term. Links are made between the virtues, current areas of study in PSHE and the school’s own HEART values. The half-termly focus virtue is taught through:

- One piece of linked classwork per half-term
 - Classes to complete one activity directly linked to curriculum work
 - To be shared in pupil newsletter
 - To be shared with parents via SeeSaw
- Fortnightly assemblies (3 per half-term)
 - Wed assembly to focus on virtues in week 2, 4, 6
- Holiday home learning task (pre-learning)
 - Task to be set before each half-term via SeeSaw to focus on an aspect of the upcoming virtue
- Prominent half-termly display
 - Ground floor
 - Displays key messages around each virtue
 - High quality

WHOLE SCHOOL OVERVIEW FOR CHARACTER EDUCATION

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Virtue	Reflection (I)	Respect (M)	Helpfulness (C) & Teamwork (P)	Responsibility (P)	Kindness (M)	Curiosity (I)

Each of the focus virtues are classified as:

- Intellectual (I). Traits necessary for discernment, right action and the pursuit of knowledge, truth and understanding.
- Moral (M). Traits that enable us to act well in situations that require an ethical response.
- Civic (C). Traits that are necessary for engaged, responsible citizenship, contributing to the common good.
- Performance (P). Traits that have an instrumental value in enabling the intellectual, moral and civic virtues.