



Values Based Education Policy

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Issue Date: May 2017

To be reviewed: May 2018

Rationale

'Values' are principles that act as guides to our behaviour and provide reference points in decision making. They are essential to all human relationships and are especially important in creating a positive, successful and happy school.

'Values Education' is about understanding what is important to us individually, within our families and as a whole school community.

'Values Education' is therefore a community activity that depends on shared understanding and respect. The role of parents is fundamental.

At Silsoe Lower School, we are clear about the values we wish to share and we work closely with parents to encourage all of our children to develop clear values for themselves.

Aims

With the support of the whole school community, we aim to raise our children into calm, happy, motivated individuals. We promote an educational philosophy based on valuing self, others and the environment. We encourage our children to be reflective so that that they can become effective learners and positive members of society.

Through the Values based Education Programme we aim to:

- Improve behaviour and conduct by developing strong values within the pupils at the schools.
- Develop pupils' understanding of what values are and why they are important in life.
- Encourage children to 'live the values' in all aspects of their lives both in school and out.
- Promote values to pupils in every aspect of school life.
- Promote values in the way in which adults interact with each other and with pupils.
- Display our school values and encourage all visitors to take account of them in their time in the school.
- Encourage parents to support the programme at home by promoting the 'value of the month' to parents in newsletters
- Embrace and explore British Values

Implementation of our policy

In a two year rolling programme we study 22 values plus the 2 overarching values of perseverance and determination:

Autumn Term - Cycle 1	Autumn Term - Cycle 2
Quality Unity Peace Happiness	Respect Responsibility Friendship Tolerance
Spring Term - Cycle 1	Spring Term - Cycle 2
Hope Patience Care	Courage Positivity Love & Forgiveness
Summer Term - Cycle 1	Summer Term - Cycle 2
Simplicity Understanding Trust Freedom	Co-operation Thoughtfulness Honesty Appreciation

Children who demonstrate these values in their work, relationships and play are recognised in special 'celebration' worship. Their name is added to our values tree in the worship hall. Parents are also informed of their child's achievement via a text message. This gives families the chance to share the values and to encourage the children.

In order to promote values for learning we recognise the values of perseverance and determination throughout the year. A special part of our values display is dedicated to these values and the children are taught to demonstrate them in everything they do. These values help us to demonstrate our 'growth mindset' which means we strive to achieve whatever the challenges and difficulties and become resilient, committed and effective people.

Each value is explored by the whole school community over a period of 3 weeks to 1 month. Parents are informed about developments in Values Education via the monthly newsletter.

Our annual Values Day is where one value is investigated in great depth; the timetable is suspended for the day so that the children can engage in a wide range of activities, often in mixed age groups in order to promote cohesion and awareness. The activities are designed to be fun, motivating and creative so that the concept of the value is internalised in a practical, memorable and thought provoking way.