



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

Values Based Education Policy

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Where possible we offer translation or explanation of written communication. Please contact the school office if you require forms/paperwork in any other format.

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 as an integral part of our values based learning
- Practise mindful and reflective techniques through our school day to develop a healthy mind

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

Quality
Unity
Peace
Happiness

Autumn Term - Cycle 2

Respect
Responsibility
Friendship
Tolerance

Spring Term - Cycle 1

Hope
Patience
Care

Spring Term - Cycle 2

Courage
Positivity
Love & Forgiveness

Summer Term - Cycle 1

Simplicity
Understanding
Trust
Freedom

Summer Term - Cycle 2

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 resilience 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 school 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, understanding and awareness. The activities are designed to be fun, motivating and creative so that the concept of the value is internalised in practical, memorable and thought provoking ways.