

Some children are also invited to various values events throughout the year which are run by staff and children from local middle schools. These events are important for our school communities as it promotes the link between lower and middle school settings. Again, the fun, practical activities ensure that the children's understanding of values education is embedded.

The children always enjoy these special days, here are some comments they have made about past Values Days;

"I enjoyed the Values Day on Co-operation because we got to do a bit of everything like drama, music and dancing"

"I enjoyed the Values Day because friendship and love are values, if there are no values there will be no love and friendship"

"I liked helping other children"

One final thought;

'Values Education helps pupils to develop holistically, nurturing a secure sense of self, respect for self and others and supports the raising of academic standards'

'Values Education is a way of conceptualising education that places the search for meaning and purpose at the heart of the educational process. It recognises that the recognition, worth and integrity of all involved in the life and work of the school, are central to the creation of a values-based learning community that fosters positive relationships and quality in education.'

*Dr. Neil Hawkes, Founder
of the International
Values Education Trust (IVET)*

*Silsoe VC Lower School
'We all share the same values'*

Values Education



A Guide for Parents



*Providing a way for children
to develop their spiritual,
moral, social and
cultural selves*

What is values based education?

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.

Our Values Education programme involves exploring 22 positive values throughout a two year cycle at a deeper level as the children move up through the school.

Adults in school consistently model positive, reflective behaviour using the Values language which encourages our children to develop strong social relationships and highly developed self-esteem.

Values Education lies at the heart of our Behaviour policy and it provides a solid foundation enabling our children to make informed choices by reflecting, thinking and understanding.

Our chosen programme of Values Based Education runs on a two year cycle. This means the children will explore each value at least twice during their time at Silsoe Lower School. The Values lessons are progressive as the children move up the school and so the level of thinking and reflecting expected of our children becomes more in depth and challenging. There is also an emphasis on spiritual, moral and cultural understanding. To further enhance our children's appreciation of our core values we have a dedicated, weekly worship where the current value is explored in creative and memorable ways.

During the celebration worship every Friday children are awarded a values leaf by their teacher for either demonstrating the current value, for 'living our values' or may receive a values star for demonstrating our growth mindset values of determination and perseverance. A 'resilience' star is also awarded for children who have shown great determination and/or perseverance. Their achievement is recognised and their parents informed by text

message. Please help us to encourage the children by celebrating this achievement with them.

Our 2 year values cycle;

Cycle 1		Cycle 2	
<i>Autumn term</i>	Quality Unity Peace Happiness	<i>Autumn term</i>	Respect Responsibility Friendship Tolerance
<i>Spring term</i>	Hope Patience Care	<i>Spring term</i>	Courage Positivity Love and forgiveness
<i>Summer term</i>	Simplicity Understanding Trust Freedom	<i>Summer term</i>	Cooperation Thoughtfulness Honesty Appreciation

Since 2015 we have also worked on two additional values of perseverance and determination. These values emphasise the importance of not giving up with a task and feeds into our overarching value of resilience.

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 Based 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.