



Personal Development

Overall Intent

For all pupils to reach their individual potential and to provide ambition and direction so that they are well prepared for the next stage of their education and beyond.

Intent

'The real curriculum is the lived daily experience of young people in the classrooms.'

D William (2019).

The Robert Drake curriculum is a curriculum of hope, building resilience in our children. Teaching should be acts of sincere kindness, building the mental wealth of our young children.

Personal Development is based upon:

- the aims and ethos of the school (see below);
- meeting the needs of all pupils (including contextual) and their individual stages of development;
- meeting the needs of, and also reflecting on, the current context of the school and local community.

This will enable:

- Delivery of inspiring lessons which give the children opportunities to discuss and debate a wide range of subjects to prepare them for being responsible citizens;
- Regular opportunity for speaking and listening activities. This is particularly relevant for the pupils at Robert Drake. When many of the children start school (into EYFS) their communication and language skills are below that what is expected typically for their age and their vocabulary is often limited. This is supported by the Castle Point report, 'A Profile of People Living in Castle Point' May 2016;
- Development of important attributes in pupils, such as respect, honesty, kindness, tolerance, courtesy, resilience and self-efficacy;
- Positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults;
- The belief that pupils can achieve goals, both academic and personal and enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships and to build their self-efficacy (belief about ability and capacity to accomplish a task or to deal with the challenges of life).

Discrimination and Equality

This is fully covered in our two-year rolling programme. See separate document linked to statutory objectives. Protected Characteristics are taught implicitly on an individual basis. These are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender Re-Assignment (the focus is on accepting all people as unique individuals, not on transitioning itself)
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Race
- Religion, Faith or Belief
- Sex
- Sex Orientation (years 5 and 6)

Additional Information

Mission Statement:

- To provide a stimulating environment which enables all children to enjoy learning and reach their individual potential.

Ethos and Values:

The key values at The Robert Drake Primary School are:

- respect, honesty and kindness.

We are all special, all different and all unique.

School Aims:

These values are central to the school aims which are:

- to provide a broad, balanced and stimulating curriculum which is accessible to all pupils;
- to enable all children to reach their full potential by the use of engaging and flexibly structured activities;
- to encourage a high level of concentration through the provision of relevant, interesting and purposeful activities;
- to achieve high standards of work and behaviour through building good relationships and developing a sense of responsibility;
- to encourage mutual respect and trust between all members of the school community;
- to encourage parents/carers to take an active part in their child's education both at home and school;
- to increase an awareness of, and sensitivity towards, others;
- to provide a learning environment where children are confident to take risks and can flourish through feeling secure, valued and able to discover their own talents and potential;
- to celebrate the worth and individuality of every member of the school community – "All different, all unique and all special";

- to promote the physical, creative, social, moral, spiritual, cultural and emotional development of each child in a calm and friendly atmosphere.

Implementation

Includes:

- Friendship Week;
- PSHE curriculum and implementation;
- Assemblies (including visitors to school);
- Ofsted criteria document;
- All curriculum subjects – identified cross curricular links;
- Action plans (PSHE, Healthy Schools, Mental Health, Disadvantaged, Pupil Premium, SEND);
- Happiness Hub display;
- School ethos;
- Protected Characteristics, British Values, Consent, Equality – curriculum coverage and definitions.

Other effective strategies;

- Learning Mentor and Pupil Support Officer - well trained and effective staff monitor and support pupils throughout the day, including lunchtimes;
- Monitoring identified groups of pupils;
- Staff training;
- Governor monitoring.

Impact

This results in a consistent and coherent approach to all aspects of school and delivery of agreed policies. Pupils leave The Robert Drake Primary School with:

- A secure understanding of the academic content of the curriculum;
- Positive attitudes towards life-long learning and ambitious present and future aspirations;
- The understanding of how to be socially, morally, spiritually and culturally responsible and aware;
- Empathy, tolerance and respect for others as they grow to be adult citizens;
- The confidence and courage to be independent and individual.