



Character Education Policy
BRAMBLES PRIMARY ACADEMY
Tees Valley Education Trust

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Character Education Policy

What is Character?

- **Character is what determines how we respond to the situations and circumstances of life.**
- **Character is the distinctive qualities built into an individual's life which determine their response regardless of circumstance.**
- **Character traits are those qualities that enhance us as people – helping us be self-aware about who we are and our ability to work with others.**
- **Character education** is an umbrella term loosely used to describe the teaching of children in a manner that will help them develop variously as moral, civic, good-mannered, behaved, non-bullying, healthy, critical, successful, traditional, compliant or socially acceptable beings.

Why do we teach Character Education at our school?

At Brambles Primary Academy we teach Character Education to prepare our pupils for life beyond the school gates and to give them the opportunity to flourish in modern society. We believe that there is a strong link between character and attainment, and success is not measured simply by quantifiable outcomes such as test results and attendance figures. Achievement is raised through good attitudes towards learning coupled with good effort.

From Nursery through to Year 6 our pupils are taught through the CoJo Character Curriculum which takes the pupils on the life journeys of inspirational heroes, heroines, adventurers and explorers.

Principles

“All children getting the chance to achieve, be resilient, tolerate others and make great choices for life – in and outside school.”

Through;

- Accessing coherent, sequential learning opportunities
- Being inspired to do their best and to have the ambition to achieve
- Engaging in deep thinking to support their decision making and actions
- Experiencing a wide range of exciting learning opportunities
- Integrating the teaching of Human Values

How do we teach Character Education?

At Brambles Primary Academy we teach Character Education as part of the whole school ethos. Each week the pupils take part in carefully designed missions which allow the Character behaviour traits of individuals' and groups of pupils, to be put to the test in a safe environment. Each mission is carefully tailored to meet the needs of the pupils. At the end of each session, the pupils are given time to self-assess, and set personalised targets for themselves and peers. In addition, our core values are embedded within our behaviour policy, our extra-curricular offer and is beginning to be used as the golden thread throughout our foundation topics.

Character Behaviour Traits

The table below shows the core character behaviour traits taught throughout the school.

Core Values	Character Behaviour traits
Kindness	Just (fair); compassionate (forgiveness); kind ; courteous; unselfishness
Resilience	Determined ; self-controlled ; persistent ; courageous ; diligent ; perseveres
Respect	Kind ; courteous ; polite ; empathy ; compassionate ; self-aware
Teamwork	Cooperates ; responsible ; cares; decision makes; helpful; unity

Character Curriculum topics

Year 1 topic Characters	Steve Backshall 'Walk on the wildside'	Simba and Me 'Circle of Life'	Traditional Tales 'Once upon a time'
Year 2 topic Characters	Samuel Pepys 'London's Burning'	Pocahontas 'Trouble in the Tribe'	The Queen 'The longest Reign'
Year 3 topic Characters	Ed Stafford 'Walking the Amazon'	Ernest Shackleton 'Endurance'	Nellie Bly 'Around the World in 72 Days'
Year 4 topic Characters	Bear Grylls 'Survival'	Kira Salak 'Gorilla in the Mist'	Leif Erikson 'Voyage of Discovery'
Year 5 topic Characters	Tim Peak 'Blast off!'	Ranulph Fiennes 'Transglobe Adventure'	Spartacus 'Romans Revolt'
Year 6 topic Characters	Nancy Wake 'The White Mouse'	Amelia Earhart 'Final Flight'	Ibn Battuta 'Eastern Odyssey'