

Our Curriculum: A Values-Based Approach

At Diamond Wood Community Academy, we have designed an ambitious, flexible curriculum which allows all pupils to create a broad range of opportunities and memorable experiences which are underpinned by our five core values. These are;

- Friendship
- Respect
- Honesty
- Co-operation
- Responsibility

Our main aim is to prepare our pupils for their future lives, both as they continue on their learning journey and within the 'real world'.

We are committed to supporting pupils with their 'global development' and take into great consideration the growth of the 'holistic child'. We aim to develop children's strength of character and personal development by underpinning our curriculum with these five core values, alongside our chosen key themes;

- Diversity and Inclusion
- Peace and Conflict
- Discovery
- Identity and Community
- Sustainable Development
- Health and Wellbeing

We often refer to our curriculum as a values-based curriculum. This is because our values and key themes are embedded within everything we do at Diamond Wood. Although the order that the values and key themes are focused upon with pupils has been strategically planned to maximise learning opportunities, they are all interwoven across all aspects of the curriculum and school life.

A place to grow, a place to shine!

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Regular assemblies, collective worships and dedicated RPHSE sessions allow for specifically planned inputs and activities to take place. The children are encouraged to engage in activities that promote an understanding of themselves as growing and changing individuals, and as members of a wider community, based on their own first-hand experiences.

Planned activities and opportunities also encourage pupils to understand how their choices and behaviours can affect others. The children are encouraged to play and learn alongside, and then collaboratively with, their peers. They may use their personal and social skills to develop or extend these activities. The children are also given the opportunity to make choices about their health and environment and are encouraged to develop a caring attitude to others.

In summary, through embedding a values-based approach to our curriculum and school life in general, we aim to ensure that all pupils are;

- given opportunities to develop their self-esteem, confidence and self-awareness
- able to make informed choices and decisions
- encouraged and supported with the development of their social skills and social awareness
- enabled to make sense of their own personal and social experiences
- develop responsible attitudes towards the maintenance of good physical and mental health, supported by a safe and healthy lifestyle
- able to build effective interpersonal relationships and develop a caring attitude towards others
- becoming responsible and caring towards the environment
- able to understand and manage their feelings
- showing an understanding of how society works and the rights and responsibilities involved

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