A Values Led Curriculum at Portishead Primary School

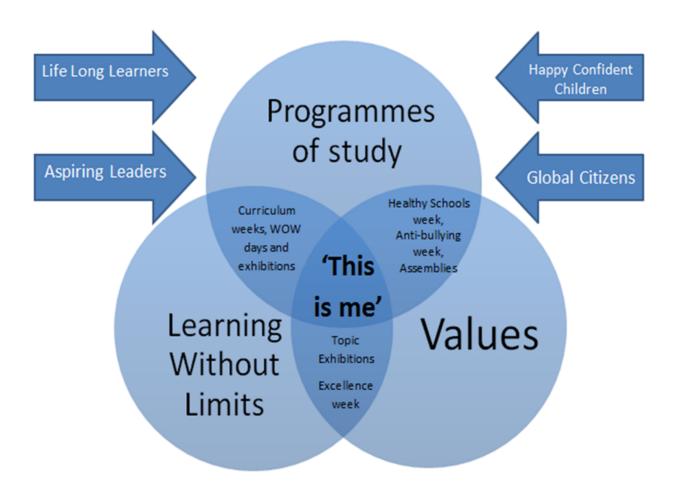


Background

Portishead Primary School began to deliver a more values led curriculum in response to the changing educational landscape which included greater freedom given to schools by the DFE, the requirement to deliver the 5 British Values, as we reviewed our own vision on the journey to joining the LSP and from the feedback of our stakeholders.

Curriculum

At the heart of our curriculum is the delivery of the schools vision (This is Me). We aim to deliver these 4 pupil outcomes through three key elements: 1 National Curriculum Programmes of Study 2. Our topic led and challenged based teaching and learning approach (Learning Without Limits) 3. Our Values.



Values

Core Principles - Our Roots

Our core principles of Relationships, Partnership and Achievement are central to the ethos of our school, our decision making and guide our policies and practice and are our acid test- does any decision, policy or practice support the delivery of these 3 key principles (Core Values)?

British Values- The Branches

These are 5 strands that permeate our curriculum offer for all children and are covered in assemblies, through History, RE, PHSE and specific topics or activities. Explicit example of how we deliver these include the school council, our behaviour policy, school rules, celebration of a diverse range of religious festivals, visits from council members and our MP and the use of the parliamentary education service.



School Values - The leaves

At the end of each year the school selects a set of values that will be shared with our children and families, taught discreetly and celebrated in assemblies and through rewards. These are responsive to current affairs e.g. we used the Olympic and Paralympic values in 2016 and feedback from stakeholders through our parents survey.

We use one value a month that is shared in assembly and displayed around the school. Our values leader identifies key learning for each value that is on display and guides staff and children. Most importantly these values must be modelled by staff and directly taught and highlighted in the attitudes and behaviour of the children across the school day. Teachers then deliver PHSE based lessons that cover those key elements throughout the month and leaders deliver a series of whole school assemblies that are linked explicitly to the value. The values are carefully selected so that they can be linked to curriculum weeks across the school year e.g.in November when we hold our anti-bullying week the value was caring and thoughtfulness.

The values for the year are displayed in the entrance to the school and shared with parents on the school newsletter.

Excellence is always one of our values and we end the year with an excellence week that will have an art and writing focus and is linked to theme. In 2018 the theme we selected was ocean pollution. Children wrote poems, created leaflets and made sculptures using recycled materials. Thease outcomes are then shared at whole school exhibition and are put on display at the beginning of the new school year to remind the children of what they can achieve and to inspire even greater future success.

Rewards

Children are rewarded in class for displaying the values with housepoints, values certificates that the school created and had printed and in achievement assemblies. Values certificates are sent home straight away and achievement certificates are displayed for a week and shared in our newsletters.

Parent feedback

If you were the headteacher what 3 things would you be most proud of?

- The respect & camaraderie the pupils have for each other.
- A group of very polite and well mannered children who care for each other.
- Listening to parent views the values that the school teaches to the children
- The high standard of not just academia but the integrity, respect and compassion all students show for one another, that will help them become the best they can be in whatever they choose.
- The richness and diversity of the teaching, and the emphasis on wellbeing as well as results the mindfulness classes, grief counselling, mentoring, anti-bullying initiatives, and life skills visit, are just a few examples of the fantastic things that go on to teach values
- Work around school values and living these. The diversity and achievements of the children. The happy atmosphere of the school
- The atmosphere, the sense of possibility, the efforts to introduce and educate about other countries and cultures





