

Four Elms Primary School

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Character Values Termly Newsletter

What is character education and how is it delivered?

Character Education is a key part of the curriculum within the Inspire Academy Movement. We have six school values at Four Elms: Aspiration, independence, perseverance, compassion, respect and community. One value is taught each term to allow sufficient time for the specific knowledge and skills to be fully embedded. This character education, and the knowledge and skills that children develop each year, enable children to become well-rounded individuals with the ability to use their strength of character to be successful both in school and beyond.

At the beginning of each term, the focus character value is taught within the classroom learning experience. It is then subsequently referred to throughout the remainder of the term including through classroom learning experiences, assemblies, lunchtimes and school visits. Pupils also develop their understanding of the character value through books, real life examples and role play. In addition, we model the value ourselves and notice when the pupils are displaying it. The more exemplification that children are exposed to, in school and outside, they more likely they are to develop the character value.

Character value of the term:



To have **compassion** is to have empathy, understanding and an ability to show kindness to those who are in need. To show **compassion** is to have a desire to help others relieve their suffering.

What is being taught in each year group?

Although the character value across the school is compassion this term, this is broken down into different learning for each class to ensure that children continue to make progress in their character education.

In Class 1, children will learn how to recognise emotions and recognise what someone else is feeling.

In Class 2, children will learn how to listen and help someone to solve a problem.

In Class 3, children will learn how to show that they care about themselves.

In Class 4, children will know how to show forgiveness and understanding of why someone acted or behaved in a certain way.

Supporting your child at home

It is important that pupils have the opportunity to develop and transfer their developing compassion to all situations, and not merely see it as something that is important to demonstrate only in school.

As part of your child's homework, their teacher will be asking the children to comment on if they have been able to show compassion within an out of school context. Pupils can write, or send in a short video explaining what their compassionate acts have been. This could be showing kindness to a sibling who is in distress by trying to help them, or showing sympathy to a losing opponent during a sporting event, or even donating food to a food bank. There may be weeks where they have not had an opportunity to show compassion, in which case pupils can reflect on why that is.

We would like to compile a whole school video of children demonstrating compassion. Over the course of the term, if you take a photo or video of your child demonstrating a compassionate act, we would love to see them! We do however appreciate that most compassionate acts are not planned, and therefore you may be unable to capture it. In which case, sending a video of your child explaining what they did would be lovely! If you take a relevant video or photograph of your child, please share this by emailing it

to fourelmsmedia@inspirefederation.co.uk By sharing images or videos, you are giving consent for this to be added to a whole-school video which will be shared in school and uploaded to the school website and internet.