

Citizenship Policy

Battlefield Primary School

(Incorporating ENTERPRISE EDUCATION & EDUCATION FOR WORK)

Mission Statement

We believe our school creates an atmosphere where all are proud of their achievements. We place respect for oneself and others at the heart of our community.

Rationale

We will develop the personal, social and emotional awareness of all pupils and encourage them to practise the skills they will need to become caring and responsible citizens in an ever-changing society.

We will recognise and value the differences between people and encourage interaction within our local community to help our pupils develop a sense of responsibility and confidence in their ability to contribute to their community.

What is Education for Citizenship?

Education for Citizenship provides opportunities for our pupils to:

- Participate in decision making
- Participate actively in relevant learning experiences across the curriculum
- Learn to make connections between different areas of study through cross-curricular experiences relevant to education for citizenship
- Understand and participate in the life of the communities to which they belong

The curriculum alone will not develop good citizens. We believe that our pupils must be allowed to encounter important experiences in school and participate in real life citizenship. They must have a clear insight into their own and other's rights, they must feel valued and they must be encouraged to express their views openly. The citizens of tomorrow will develop most effectively in a vibrant school community which is rooted in openness and trust.

What is Enterprise Education?

Enterprise Education provides opportunities for our teachers to teach other curricular areas in real, relevant and meaningful contexts. It also provides opportunities for pupils to develop core skills in a meaningful context. These core skills are:

- Skills of communication
- Numeracy skills
- Problem solving skills
- Using ICT
- Working with others
- Developing self confidence and self esteem

Our school has a separate policy on enterprise education and an established whole school programme including 'I can' statements for early, first and second levels.

What is Education for Work?

Education for Work is concerned with preparing pupils for the world of work in the widest sense. Our school recognises that developing pupils' awareness, knowledge and skills in work-related learning initiates a lifelong learning process of personal development. It is one of the key purposes of the curriculum which helps pupils to:

- Make a successful transition to the world of work
- See clear purpose in school as a relevant preparation for their future lives

- Develop knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes which enhance employability
- Make connections between different parts of the curriculum
- Recognise that school is a first stage in a process of lifelong learning
- Develop the confidence and skills to respond flexibly to the changing economic circumstances of the future.

Whole School Approach to Consultation and Decision Making:

In our school we have created a democratic establishment in which staff and pupils' views are encouraged, valued and respected. This is achieved in a variety of ways.

Pupils have many opportunities to be consulted on matters which affect them. For example:

- Pupil Council – pupils from Primaries 3 – 7 are democratically elected to the Council after running a campaign for election. Pupils are then nominated by their peers for positions such as Chairperson, Secretary...etc
- School monitors – pupils, mainly from P7 assist with wet weather supervision.
- Playground jobs- buddies and friends/ mentors– pupils interested in assisting with playground organisation are normally interviewed for these positions by Mrs Curry or Mrs Imrie and representatives from the pupil council.
- ECO committee- representatives of pupils, staff and parents meet regularly to assist the school in maintaining our GREEN FLAG – ECO school status.
- Choosing a Charity –The school council liase with the pupil body annually on selection of the charity which the school will support through events.
- Values Steering Group – pupils, staff, parents and members of the community were represented on the group who devised our Statement of Shared Values
- Behaviour Code – through the Pupil Council all pupils have an opportunity to develop and comment on this code
- Class Charters and Rules – all pupils have an active part to play in drawing up rules for their classroom in line with The Rights Respecting Schools philosophies. Each class create a class charter which states rules and rights for the pupils within classes.

The Pupil Council is the forum through which all ideas and suggestions from the pupils are discussed and decisions taken. It may be that some of the suggestions are passed to a more appropriate committee for discussion e.g. PARENT COUNCIL. GCC's Pupil Council forum

Whole School Approach to Active Citizenship

If pupils are to develop skills associated with citizenship, it is important that there are opportunities for them to practise these skills in real contexts. In Battlefield we continue to identify opportunities within Health & Wellbeing, RME and Topics for pupils to experience active Citizenship. Also included are opportunities for Enterprise and Education for Work. In addition to curricular-related activities, we provide opportunities in a wider, whole school contexts;

- Pupil Council
- Eco Committee
- Fair Trade Committee
- Road Safety volunteers
- School Enterprise Groups/ clubs
- Monitors
- Nursery/P1 Buddies
- Organising and leading Assemblies
- After-school clubs

Whole School Approach to Promoting Values & Raising Self Esteem

Our school has a clear Statement of Shared Values which is the foundation on which our school functions. Our values were drawn up by our Steering Group following extensive consultation with staff, pupils, parents and members of the wider community. Our Pupil Council also helped draw up our school statement on rights and responsibilities based on these values again after consulting with the staff and pupils. By involving our pupils in making decisions about their school, we help to raise their self esteem and self confidence. We actively encourage all users of our school to recognise and celebrate the successes achieved through –

- having a consistent approach to the use of praise
- having a policy of promoting positive behaviour and relationships
- Sharing success at our weekly, whole school assemblies
- photographic displays of activities and events we are involved in
- good work notice boards
- our aspiration tree
- what ways are you smart boards which are shared at assemblies
- pupil Learning Stories comments ad wider world achievement section

Citizenship in the Curriculum

- Citizenship will be planned through many curricular areas such as Social Subjects, Health & Wellbeing, Enterprise, Religious and Moral Education, and Literacy.
- Visitors to school will be encouraged to share experience in Citizenship with pupils.
- Trips/ visits out of school will offer broader opportunities.
- Whole school/class initiatives will be organised to enhance experiences in citizenship.
- School assemblies will celebrate individual and class achievements and often have a focus on citizenship themes such as Recycling, Fair trade or Resilience.

In BATTLEFIELD PRIMARY pupils will be given opportunities to develop their ability to

- discuss what is right and fair through the Rights Respecting Schools themes
- make choices
- respect the rules of groups to which they belong and contribute to making rules, where appropriate
- be aware of their immediate and wider environment and help look after it
- co-operate with others in work and play
- play an active part in representing their peers, their school and community.

Parents, Community and Business Involvement

Parents are invited to the school on many occasions. ‘End of topic’ presentations and assemblies, information meetings and good work assemblies are some of the activities and events they share with their children in school. We have an active Parent Council and Events Committee where parental views can be expressed and expertise can be shared. Parent representatives were very active on the Values Steering Group. Each session we aim to organise workshops for our parents to help them feel part of the school life and allow teachers to share the expertise on our varied curriculum. We have a significant number of adult volunteers assisting with learning in all areas of the school. All adult volunteers are PVG disclosed to work within schools.

Our community is an excellent resource for helping to develop citizenship in our pupils. Community projects, social events, inter-school quizzes and events all contribute to this. Visits to places of interest within our community and visiting speakers are built into topics where possible to encourage pupil motivation and interest.

Assessment

Assessment of the core skills will be recorded within the appropriate curricular areas. Information on pupils' creativity, involvement in citizenship experiences and enterprise will be recorded through pupils Learning Stories.