

Friday, 26th April 2024

To all parents and carers of Year 6 Pupils of Oak Trees Multi Academy Trust

Oak Trees MAT is looking to implement a Character Development Framework from September 2024 in order to support our pupils to develop the traits and skills beyond the academic that prepare them to participate and play an active role in shaping their future and the future of their communities. Research and evidence suggest that schools and trusts that are values driven have high expectations and demonstrate academic, professional and social success.

Character is a set of personal traits that produce specific moral emotions, inform motivation and guide conduct.

Character education includes explicit and implicit educational activities that help young people develop positive personal strengths.

Schools should enable pupils to become good citizens, able to lead good lives and contribute to the common good. Human flourishing is the ultimate aim of character education and requires the acquisition of intellectual, moral and civic virtues. Schools should aim to develop confident and compassionate pupils who are effective contributors to society, successful learners and responsible citizens.

Character Caught – through a positive school community, formational relationships and a clear ethos.

Character Taught – through the curriculum using teaching and learning strategies, activities and resources.

Character Sought – through experiences that occur within and outside of the formal curriculum.

With this in mind we have devised the Oak Trees MAT Character Gateways which formulate our whole MAT approach to the development of virtues and values. Over the course of the next half term we will be consulting with our pupils in Year 6 on their hopes and aspirations for the future. We are seeking to understand what inspires and motivates them in order to ensure we plan the events, opportunities and curriculum which will support all of our pupils to flourish beyond just the academic. Pupils' views will be sought on their ambitions for the future once they have left school; their willingness to try new things and express themselves; role models who inspire and motivate them and their views on what is meant by a sense of community and citizenship. Pupils' views will help shape the calendar of MAT events and activities we plan for the next academic year. Our ambition is to provide equity of opportunity for all pupils so that they actively play their part and make a positive contribution to school and community life.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Finnegan

Deputy CEO

Oak Trees MAT

Achieving Excellence Together

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