

Character Development – the when and the how

There are many reasons why the development of character is regarded as important in modern education. It is recognised that competition is greater than ever, so people with confidence and self-assuredness will stand out more. Adult life is likely to be more fluid and complex, so people with the adaptability and creativity to shape new paths for themselves are better able to flourish. And in a world where Artificial Intelligence may replace many of us in our work, coping with disappointment and having the resolve to bounce back are highly valuable.

As a Cognita School, Hydesville has “Character Development” as one of the central tenets to the education we provide. Great schools develop children’s character every day, in a myriad of ways that defy labelling or prescriptive timetabling: a great teacher’s interactions with their pupils will be shaping their outlook and attitudes for years to come. Despite this caveat, the following is a snapshot of some of the specific ways in which the development of a child’s character will occur whilst at Hydesville Tower School.

Section of school	Specific opportunities for character development	
Whole School	Charity initiatives Community activities Extra-curricular and Enrichment activities MAT challenges and clubs Music performances, including main concerts Participating in assemblies	Performing Arts opportunities PSHE curriculum Residential experiences Sports fixtures Various trips to local and national experiences Votes for Schools
Early Years	British Values events Child-initiated activities	Nativity Parental engagement events
Key Stage 1	Elocution Fashion Show	Hydesville Ambassadors Pupil Voice
Key Stage 2	Children’s University Fashion Show Hydesville Ambassadors Hydesville Challenge Hydesville Champions	JASS Award Pupil voice Ski Trip Times tables challenge
Key Stage 3	Collaboration with schools and peers within the Cognita Group (Global Perspective) Collaboration with the Prep School – Reading Mentors, joint projects (International award) Drama – trust, team building and leadership activities within lessons	English presentations and Speaking and Listening for virtues (Resilience, Community, Dignity and Perseverance) Form responsibilities RS – ethical discussions and debates, respect and tolerance for others Ski Trip
Key Stage 4	Art – individual projects at GCSE and Arts and Minds Windrush competition Business – Global Enterprise Week Collaboration with schools and peers within the Cognita Group (Global Perspective)	Collaboration with the Prep School – Reading Mentors, joint projects (International award) Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Form captains Prefects