



Personal Development

Personal development is both a subject and a school ethos. It is reflected across our school, through our school motto of Celebrate, Believe, Aspire and in our very foundations 'As each one does their part, we grow in love'. We know that every child is unique and has so much to offer. We want each child to leave our school feeling confident, unique and proud, equipped with life skills taught through our 'Switched On' approach.

Our aim is to teach children, through explicit sessions and collective Worship, how to navigate through life safely, happily and healthily. Children are growing up in a world that is constantly changing and it is the duty of all the staff, in partnership with our families, to teach the children transferable life skills. We teach children about the world around them, relationships, emotions, reproduction and health, as well as transferable skills to help with life. We consistently promote the British values and our school values.

Personal Development is taught (implicitly and explicitly) through a wide range of ways throughout the children's school lives. For example:

- PSHE sessions following our Scheme of Work
- It is taught with cross-curricular links in other lessons, such as English, physical education and religious education
- Staff members consistently model how to be a good citizen who uphold the school values
- Collective Worship (whole school and visitors)
- Annual First Aid Training Day to learn basic first aid
- Upper KS2 Roles and Responsibilities (by application form)
- Specialist staff working with individuals and groups
- E-Safety lessons in computing and group assemblies
- Celebrating positive learning attributes with weekly 'recognition'
- An array of before and after school clubs
- Well thought through transitions throughout the school and beyond
- Focusing on mental, emotional and physical health
- Pupil Voice groups eg School Council / Eco-Council, Leading Lights
- Celebrating different languages, cultures and religions
- Outdoor/Offsite activities



Personal Development – External Opportunities

Believing that we are all unique and with the ability to offer such a diverse range of skills and talents, we aim to support our pupils to develop their interests, resilience and life skills outside of the school.

We continue to ensure our children in Year 5 and Year 6 have the opportunity to learn away from home, embarking on a residential visit. As a school we are passionate that personal development comes from knowing ourselves and being given opportunities to be (safely) independent.

The primary purpose of our Fairthorne Residential is to build personal development in order that our children confidently move forward knowing that they have the resilience to learn from mistakes and persevere. We also focus heavily on the PSHE and relationships, team building and the development of leaders and positive thinking. Intended Outcomes from the residential being:

- ✓ Living away from home
- ✓ Teamwork
- ✓ Taking part in adventurous activities and overcoming fears

We do this through outdoor and adventurous activities: Abseiling, Camping, Canoeing, Rafting or improvised rafting, Shooting, Archery and a multitude of other activities.

Additionally, we do this through sport and physical activity, having supported pupils to pursue their love of equestrian sports, gymnastics and team games such as netball, on a National level.

We look to nurture the existing interests of our pupils beyond the classroom through local, regional or national opportunities, working with agencies or partnerships to add to the personal development of children whatever their situation.

In 2022-23, we supported a pupil to take on additional learning for future development, by working with The Princes trust.



The Prince's Trust believes that every young person should have the chance to succeed, no matter what their background or the challenges they are facing. We help those from disadvantaged communities and those facing the greatest adversity by supporting them to build the confidence and skills to live, learn and earn.

The courses offered by The Trust help young people aged 11-30 to develop essential life skills, get ready for work and access job opportunities. We support them to find work because having a job or running a business can lead to a more stable, fulfilling life.



Prince's Trust

In 2021-22 and 2022-23, we engaged in working alongside Bold Voices, giving children in Years 5 and 6 the optional opportunity to work with peers and students from The Blandford School

and Bryanston School. Bold Voices was founded on the belief that all young people have the right to receive an education free from gender inequality and gender-based violence, empowering young people to recognise and tackle these inequalities.



Since 2018, we have established a group of Sports Ambassadors, that promote physical activity across the school and lead new initiatives to promote activity and 'giving something a go'. These Ambassadors receive full training in their role by our external sports

partnerships. The Primary Leadership Academies provide high quality support, training, and development for primary age pupils to become Bronze Young Ambassadors and develop and grow young people as leaders and volunteers. These pupils are then continually supported by our PE lead to develop their ideas.



Opportunities for Volunteering

We aim to encourage our pupils to want to help others and make our community a better place. A contribution to this is through our school volunteering programme.

We have a number of in-school volunteering roles:

Online Safety Ambassadors - promoting online safety



'As each one does their part, we grow in love'
Ephesians 4 vs.16



Lunchtime Peer Mediators - supporting pupils to follow the school behaviour policy and offering support. Working with the School Councillor to provide support for pupils at lunchtime and mediate if there are disagreements

Sports Ambassadors - providing support for sporting events and PE lessons and demonstrating sport skills, encouraging physical activities and 'giving it a go'.

Playground Leaders - providing support to other pupils on the playground and organising games

Collective worship Team - Setting up the hall for assemblies

Librarians - booking library books in and out and keeping the library tidy

School Council - Meeting to discuss improvements in school and charity opportunities

Lunchtime Hall Team - help to set up tables for lunch, ensuring there are water jugs etc.

Lead Learners - Helping within the classroom if pupils need help or helping the teacher

Eco-Council- Help to promote environmental issues and sustainability, arranging a litter picking rota.

House Captains - Lead their house during house events, lead tours for new families or visitors, support open days, lead some Collective Worship.

Organised Volunteering Opportunities

From time to time, we also provide opportunities for pupils to volunteer as a year group. Year 5 have worked with local businesses to improve our school grounds by building raised beds for vegetables and herbs that we offer to our community. Our EYFS and Year 1 children volunteer to help within school, taking messages around the school. These opportunities allow our pupils to develop an understanding to how to support the wider community.