



# CHARACTER EDUCATION

At Imberhorne we are committed to the idea of developing the whole person. Curriculum coverage and the development of knowledge is obviously a very important part of schooling, qualifications open the door for opportunities, however, one's character and personal skills are what frequently bring lasting success.

If we believe in the importance of character, then we should also be able to articulate what this means to us. As a school we have collectively agreed on key characteristics or attributes which we believe help build and develop our students as fully as possible. They are shown in our Character Education Chart below.



We recognise and reward these characteristics when demonstrated by students in school. Our merit rewards for one achievement point are now awarded under one of the six character education headings. Using the language of character consistently across the school shows students that we value these qualities and attributes. It allows them to see how and when they are shown most clearly.

Whenever we have visitors to the school they always comment, very positively, on the 'feel' of the school. What they experience is our culture and ethos. We are very proud of these qualities and work hard to model the right values and to celebrate the qualities that our students frequently display.

Character develops all the time; teachers overtly emphasise opportunities to communicate, collaborate or engage in critical thinking during lessons. Our extra-curricular provision is of particular importance. These are occasions when students may feel challenged or reflective in unexpected ways. Our calendar of trips and activities is carefully compiled to provide a range of experiences. We encourage students to participate as fully as possible in the life of the school; giving of oneself and immersing oneself in an activity or event with others can be transformational.

Our challenge is to bring this to fruition for all students, making their time at Imberhorne a rich and fulfilling experience.

# KEY PRINCIPLES FOR CHARACTER EDUCATION

- Character is important: it contributes to human and societal flourishing
- A school culture that enables students to satisfy their needs for positive relationships, competence, and self-determination facilitates the acquisition of good character

- Character should be taught: direct teaching of character provides the rationale, language and tools to use in developing character elsewhere in and out of school
- Character should be developed in partnership with parents, employers and other community organisations

