

## Cultural Capital at Hunton CEP School



Cultural capital is the accumulation of knowledge, behaviours, and skills that a child can draw upon and which demonstrates their cultural awareness, knowledge and competence; it is one of the key ingredients a child will draw upon to be successful in society, their career and the world of work. Cultural capital is having assets that give children the desire to aspire and achieve social mobility whatever their starting point.

According to their school inspection handbook, Ofsted's definition of cultural capital is: *'The essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.'*

At Hunton CEP School we take great responsibility in providing opportunities for children. Following in Jesus' footsteps, pupils at Hunton are encouraged to make positive and courageous choices to open up the world, challenging themselves by stepping outside their comfort zone in order to 'live life in all its fullness'. John 10:10.

We are proud of being a successful small school where every child's confidence grows and thrives through the opportunity to perform on stage, represent the school in sport and have a significant part in church services as well as having a leadership post.

**We educate our children's hearts, bodies and souls – not just their minds**, so they flourish and always aiming to celebrate and embrace the different 'something'.

At the centre of our school life is the **profound personal development** of every single one of our children and the quality of the experiences we provide is unique. Our staff nurture our children and share a conviction that there is something wonderful in everybody at school. We seek to find out what that is and help it grow.

Our **aspiration for character development** are what breathe life into our school and everyone who comes here comments on it. It is the heart beat of our school. One thing we do every day in collective worship is to provide time for our children to reflect, be curious, to wonder and to tap into their spirituality.

The character development of our children empowers them to be confident in their self-motivation for being young leaders and global citizens of the future.

We are continually embracing highly effective initiatives as a whole school community to ensure **life in all its fullness**.

At Hunton CEP School, we believe that it is our unique **vision and ethos** that develops cultural capital. Every term you will find us engaging in real experiences which we hope will inspire our children as they become citizens of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We encourage leadership in all our children from School Council, Reading Ambassadors, Eco Council, Digital Leaders, Leading Lights and Sports Leaders.

Our school visits and trips aim to give children as much variety in their experiences as possible and so we go to London, on residential to canoe and abseil. We rock climb, skateboard, take our children to museums and libraries. We take them to the theatre but then ensure every single child gets a chance to perform on stage back in school; we provide opportunity for our children to not just grow fruit and vegetables in our sensory garden, but then to eat them or cook with them. We love to explore our rural environment, build fires and cook.

Sport is important to us. We regularly compete and succeed in tournaments against much larger schools in hockey, cricket, netball, football and athletics.

### **Cultural Development – Our approach to The Arts**

- Encouragement to write for a real audience outside school, eg: Entry into national 500 words competitions.
- Author visits and endorsements.
- A commitment to education about the performing arts and experiencing a range of genres. Pantomime visit to school and a trip to London.
- This is followed by the opportunity for all children to perform on stage throughout the year at school.
- Partake 'Hands-on History' themed days in school e.g.: Vikings, Romans, Great fire of London Workshop, giving children the opportunity to 'live out' the historical experiences.
- In-school art and design projects e.g. designing and creating with Arty Party, creating 'Shaun The Sheep' for Heart of Kent Hospice art trail.
- Learning and performing in St Mary's Church at Harvest, Christmas and Easter.
- Reading and performing on stage in Hunton's Got Talent.
- Trips and visits to many museums and galleries e.g. The National Art Gallery in London, The Portrait Gallery, The British Library, Maidstone Museum, Kent Life Museum.
- Citizenship education through PSHE and Restart a Heart.
- Celebration of music which runs alongside our music curriculum e.g. musical instrument tuition.
- Access to the languages and cultures of other countries through the Geography and MFL curriculum.
- Promotion of racial equality and community cohesion through the school's ethos, informing all policy and practice.

### **Physical Development**

- Our commitment to outdoor based learning through our sensory garden, Eden – our beautiful hut and use of Hunton Woods.
- Our Physical Education curriculum – our commitment to this highlighted by our success in matches and tournament such as the Kent Teach Games.
- Anti-bullying and safeguarding policies and strategies – our children designing the school's anti-bullying poster.
- The dimension of the PSHE programme, including strands on drugs, smoking and alcohol.
- The any extra-curricular clubs related to sports and well-being.
- Design and Technology units related to food preparation and nutrition.
- Local historic sites; trips to Maidstone.
- Physical activities: Bikeability, daily mile and sports day.
- Activity based residential visits in Years 5 and 6 to PGL centres.

### **Social Development, including political and current affairs awareness**

- Courageous advocacy – whole school involvement in research and presentations about charities – More than Words, Porchlight, RSPB, Maidstone Homeless.
- Volunteering and charitable work – e.g. raising funds for the above; singing at doors of our elderly neighbours, inviting our local preschool to our Nativity, litter picking at our local park.
- Pupil Voice –
  - Debates about real situations – followed by decision making through Picture News
  - Pupil Surveys
  - Leadership opportunities for all
- Picture News
- Inter-generational activities:
  - Children in year 6 have to ask questions about their own families through their study of World War 2; it is an important way of handing down wisdom and knowledge
  - Our volunteer readers are all retired and give children the time to read and talk.
  - Our volunteers come to thank you parties whilst other retired members of our community come to create mothers' day posies with all the children
  - A reading café is held in the garden of a 92 year old lady who loves to be fully involved.
  - Eco council has picked grapes at harvest time in a neighbour's garden.

### **Spiritual and Moral Development**

- SMSC is threaded through all we do
- Our Religious Education Curriculum
- Our collective worship with acts of reflection
- Support for the expression of individual faiths
- Inter-faith and faith-specific activities and speakers
- Visits to religious buildings and centres e.g. Maidstone Mosque
- Pastoral support from all staff

### **Personal Development**

- Citizenship, Personal, Social and Health Education provision using Kapow
- The school's wider pastoral framework – each child has a trusted adult
- Growth mindset support e.g.: our Tree of Achievement
- Transition support

- Work to develop confidence e.g. role play, supporting peers
- A commitment to supporting mental health and well-being

### **Pupil Premium**

We use our pupil premium fund to support schools to help develop cultural capital, by:

- Funding school trips and visits
- Funding swimming lessons
- Investing in technology to help children learn e.g. tablets
- Providing free class texts and leadership – Reading Ambassadors scheme
- Taking pupils to the theatre

### **Lunch-time and after-school clubs**

See how we enhance our curriculum through our many lunch-time and after-school clubs.

- Activities focused on building self-esteem.
- Mental Health and well-being provision.