



Accrington Academy

Education with Character Policy

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Introduction

At Accrington Academy we deliver Education with Character. We offer our students exciting opportunities and programmes that challenge them to experience new things, explore their interests, develop their talents and strengthen their values. These wider opportunities are what equip our students with the character attributes that will enable them to succeed in later life. This sits in line with one of the six key principles within United Learnings Curriculum.

Here at Accrington Academy our aim is to offer students a well-planned programme that is specifically designed for our students to become well-rounded, successful individuals. We hope that these opportunities allow our students to develop their character traits, attributes and behaviours that underpin success in education and work. Our mission at Accrington Academy is 'building character, creating learners and transforming lives', these sit alongside our TEAM values which are:



We understand that this is only part of developing a young person's character, therefore we offer opportunities and challenges that will develop character further.

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What is Character Education?

Character Education is playing an increasingly important part in Secondary Education. This relates to children being given the necessary opportunities during their time at Secondary school to learn key life skills for their future. This includes many different areas: having good morals; being responsible for their own actions; being independent; being well mannered; and becoming active members of society.

Ethos

We pride ourselves on being a school where students should be truthful, hardworking, ambitious and well mannered. These are key character values we hold true. Staff have a firm, friendly and fair mantra with students to try and ensure that mutual respect is built between staff and students. We understand the need for staff to be excellent role models and to build positive relationships with students.

Truth, Effort, Ambition and Manners

Our character values run throughout the whole school experience and we systematically ensure it is embedded across all areas. Some examples of this are:

Lessons

We have a clear overview of where PSHE/RSE/Education with Character is delivered through curriculum areas. Character is also built into form time and delivered by form tutors.

Assemblies

Throughout the school year there is a consistency in terms of Character values running throughout assemblies.

Talks

Every speaker who comes into the school will be asked to link their talk into our key Character values.

Enrichment

There are a number of clubs and trips that run which have a focus on developing the character of students.

Tutor Time

Students receive information via Form Tutors on various topics around awareness and how to keep safe as part of Education with Character tutor time. Students have the opportunity to

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develop citizenship through charity and community work as well as having the opportunity to keep up-to-date with current affairs through votes for school.

Leadership opportunities

We offer a range of leadership opportunities for students, each year. Taking on a leadership role really helps to develop a students' Character. These are:

Student Leadership Roles							
Student Principal				Student Principal			
House Captain Draco	House Captain Draco	House Captain Pegasus	House Captain Pegasus	House Captain Aquila	House Captain Aquila	House Captain Delphinus	House Captain Delphinus
Year 11 Prefects							
Year Representatives							
School Council							
Sports Captains							
Mental Health Lead	Anti Bullying Lead		Inclusion and Diversity Lead		Eco Lead		

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Staff

We recognise that Staff play a vital role and have to be acting as role models for students to learn from. There are regular messages/sessions with staff about the importance of character education and the role that they play.

Parents

Parents play a crucial role within the process. We ensure that parents are aware of what we are trying to do and actively encourage them to reinforce these character values at home. This is included as part of our Year 7 transition period to ensure parents can embed at home.

Evaluating and Monitoring

The delivery and impact of Character Education is a continuous improvement process. There is no one specific way in which to measure the impact but we triangulate a variety of different processes/methods including:

- School evaluation tool (Jubilee Centre)
- UL Education with Character framework
- Staff feedback
- Student feedback
- Parental feedback
- Increased children's knowledge and understanding
- Merit points – see behaviour policy
- Attendance policy
- Attendance at Accrington Extra
- Through the aspirations programme
- Through the ethos of the school
- Students work/display

Education with character is a permanent fixture in Tutor Time. Each week experiences and opportunities are shared and celebrated.

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House System

We have four houses, each linked to one of our TEAM values. Students and staff are each assigned to a House and compete in inter-house competitions.

