

British Values



Promoting British Values at Park Hall Academy

At Park Hall Academy, we are dedicated to nurturing the minds of our students by instilling core British values. One of the ways we achieve this is through our innovative "Weekly Big Questions".

Weekly Big Questions for Curious Minds

Every week, our learners engage with a new thought-provoking question designed to spark discussion, debate, and critical thinking. These questions provide a platform for learners to explore important topics in a safe and supportive environment.

Intent

Our Weekly Big Questions aim to:

- Encourage critical thinking and oracy skills.
- Promote a culture of respectful debate and discussion.
- Foster an understanding and appreciation of key British values.



Implementation

The questions encompass a wide range of subjects, including:

Democracy: Understanding democratic principles and the importance of participating in democratic processes.

Rule of Law: Exploring the significance of laws, how they are made, and their role in society.

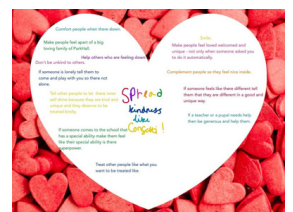
Individual Liberty: Discussing the balance between individual freedoms and the rights of others.

Mutual Respect: Highlighting the importance of respect in a diverse society.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs: Encouraging openness and understanding towards various religions and cultural practices.

Recent Weekly Big Questions

Here are some examples of the questions our students have recently debated:



"Why do we celebrate the fact that we are all different?"

"How have things changed since the time of Martin Luther King's 'I have a dream speech'?"

"Do you think Henry Fraser would like to be referred to as a person with a disability or a special ability?"

"What are rights and responsibilities and why do they go together?"



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At Park Hall Academy, we are committed to embedding core British values. 'ICARE' is a key part of this commitment, helping learners to develop essential skills and knowledge through the exploration of identity, celebration, appreciation, relationships, and empathy.

Our 'ICARE' concepts are:



Identity: Understanding and valuing one's own identity and the identities of others.

Celebrate: Recognising and celebrating diversity and achievements within our community.

Appreciate: Developing a sense of gratitude and appreciation for the contributions of others.

Relationships: Building and maintaining positive and respectful relationships.

Empathy: Cultivating the ability to understand and share the feelings of others.

These concepts are integrated into our curriculum and daily activities, fostering a deeper understanding and embodiment of British values.



Everyone Welcomed, Unique and Loved - Intent

To make these concepts accessible and relatable, we use age-appropriate stories as a central teaching tool. Each half term, a carefully selected story is shared and discussed, guiding learners in applying their ICARE skills and knowledge.

Implementation:

1. Story Selection:

Each half term, a new story is shared that aligns with the themes of ICARE and is suitable for the age group of the students.

2. Story Sharing:

The story is read and shared in the classroom each week. One story is shared and discussed for a half term, enabling the text to be well understood and discussed by all. Responses are collated in a class book.

3. Discussion and Reflection:

Teachers facilitate discussions around the story, encouraging all learners to reflect on the characters, events, and messages. Questions are posed to help learners connect the story to the ICARE concepts and British values.

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4. Practical Application:

Learners are encouraged to apply what they have learned from the story to their own lives. Questions and class activities are designed to help them practice identity, celebration, appreciation, relationships, and empathy.

5. Continuous Reinforcement:

Throughout the half term, the themes of the story and ICARE concepts are revisited and reinforced through various classroom activities, assemblies, and school events.

Examples of recent Stories and Themes

Here are some examples of the stories and themes we have explored through the Everyone Welcomed, Unique and Loved stories :

"Red Rocket & Rainbow Jelly" by Sue Heap and Nick Sharratt

Theme: It is OK to like different things. I know my friends can like different things to me and we can still be friends.

Discussion Points: Understanding and appreciating that people can like different things.



"All Are Welcome" by Alexandra Penfold

Theme: To Know I Belong

Discussion Points: Recognising and celebrating our own cultural diversity and belonging - and how we are all welcome.

"This is our House" by Michael Rosen and Bob Graham

Theme: Discrimination

Discussion Points: To understand what discrimination means.



"King of the Sky" by Nicola Davies

Theme: Immigration

Discussion Points: Understanding immigration and the affect it can have on a person.

"Julian is a Mermaid" by Jessica Love

Theme: Acceptance

Discussion Points:



Impact of ICARE and Everyone Welcomed, Unique and Loved

Our learners at Park Hall Academy are not only learning about British values but are also developing the essential social and emotional skills that will help them thrive in a diverse and interconnected world. By engaging with these stories and discussions, learners are empowered to become thoughtful, respectful, and empathetic individuals.

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At Park Hall Academy, we are dedicated to fostering an inclusive and respectful community where British values are celebrated and understood. One of the key ways we achieve this is through our thoughtfully planned assemblies, which reflect a wide range of cultures and religious events throughout the year.

Assemblies Reflecting Cultures and Religious Events

Our assemblies are designed to:

Promote Understanding: Help learners understand and appreciate the rich tapestry of cultures and religions within our school community and beyond.

Encourage Respect: Foster mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs.

Celebrate Diversity: Highlight the diversity that makes our Park Hall family vibrant and strong.

Reinforce British Values: Link cultural and religious celebrations to core British values such as democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect.

Throughout the year assemblies are planned to coincide with important cultural and religious events throughout the year. Here are some examples of how we integrate these into our school calendar:

Diwali:



Festival of Lights

Focus: Celebration of Hindu culture, the triumph of light over darkness, and the importance of family and community.

British Value: Mutual respect and tolerance.



Christmas:

Christian Festival Celebrating the Birth of Jesus

Focus: The story of Christmas, its traditions, and the values of giving and compassion.

British Value: Understanding and respecting Christian heritage.

Ramadan and Eid:

Islamic Month of Fasting and Festival of Breaking the Fast

Focus: The practices of fasting, the significance of self-discipline, and the celebration of Eid.

British Value: Respect for religious practices and empathy.



Passover:

Jewish Festival Celebrating Freedom and Deliverance

Focus: The story of Passover, traditions like the Seder, and themes of freedom and resilience.

British Value: Understanding historical significance and cultural

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Black History Month:

Celebrating the Contributions of Black Individuals

Focus: Highlighting the achievements and contributions of Black individuals in history and contemporary society.

British Value: Equality, individual liberty, and mutual respect.

Remembrance Day:

Honouring Those Who Served in the Armed Forces

Focus: The significance of Remembrance Day, the importance of peace, and honouring those who have served.

British Value: Respect for the rule of law and appreciation for freedom.



The Impact of Our Assemblies

By participating in these assemblies, learners at Park Hall Academy gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the diverse world around them. They learn to respect and celebrate differences, fostering a community where everyone feels valued and included. These assemblies are an integral part of our commitment to promoting British values and preparing our learners to be thoughtful, respectful, and informed citizens.



Assemblies with
Vicar Mike



Weekly celebration
assemblies - red carpet,
dancing, music and
achievements!