



Elm Tree Primary School

Cultural Capital Policy 2021

What is Cultural Capital?

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 promotes social mobility and success.

Cultural capital gives a child power. It helps them achieve goals, become successful, and rise up the social ladder without necessarily having wealth or financial capital.

Cultural capital is having assets that give children the desire to aspire and achieve social mobility whatever their starting point.

Policy Rationale

At Elm Tree we recognise that for children to aspire and be successful academically and in the wider areas of their lives, they need to be given rich and sustained opportunities to develop their cultural capital.

The school recognises that there are six key areas of development that are interrelated and cumulatively contribute to the sum of a child's cultural capital:

1. Personal Development
2. Social Development, including political and current affairs awareness
3. Physical Development
4. Spiritual Development
5. Moral Development
6. Cultural development

Summary of the key areas of coverage for each area of Cultural Capital Development and some examples of how children's development is shown in the areas:

Personal development

- Citizenship, Personal, Social and Health Education provision
- The school's wider pastoral framework
- Growth mindset support – resilience development strategies
- Transition support
- Work to develop confidence e.g. role play, supporting peers
- Activities focused on building self-esteem
- Mental Health & well-being provision

- Nurture School

Social Development

- Personal, Social and Health Education provision
- Charitable work
- Pupil Voice
- Pastoral support from all staff
- Nurture provision
- Current affairs topics
- Parent workshops
- School council
- Sports clubs

Physical Development

- The Physical Education curriculum
- Healthy Eating policies and catering provision
- Anti-bullying and safeguarding policies and strategies
- The Health Education dimension of the PSHE programme, including strands on drugs, smoking and alcohol
- The extra-curricular clubs related to sports and well-being
- The celebration of sporting achievement including personal fitness and competitive sport
- Activity-based residential visits
- Design and Technology units related to food preparation and nutrition

Spiritual Development

- The Religious Education Curriculum – see our RE pages
- Support for the expression of individual faiths

Moral Development

- The Religious Education Curriculum
- School vision and aims
- Awards Assemblies
- The school's Behaviour policy
- Seeds and Gardeners
- School website
- Contributions to local, national and international charitable projects
- Pupil voice: the School Council, Pupil Parliament
- Displays
- Understanding cause and effect, making the right choices
- Nurture provision

Cultural Development

- Citizenship education through PSHE
- Arts education including Music and Drama
- 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
- Assemblies
- Charity events
- World Book Day
- Appreciating artists – Arts Week

Each curriculum area makes its own contribution to children's cultural capital development and supports SMSC across the school.

Curriculum links

For each subject in the curriculum there is a corresponding programme of activities (which includes visits to the school by specialists). All these activities are in line with guidance published by the LA:

English – Theatre visits, visits by authors, poets and theatre groups;

Science – Use of the school grounds, visits to botanical gardens, science workshops and specialist visitors;

Mathematics – Use of school grounds, use of shape and number trails in the local environment;

History – Local area landmarks visits, castle visits, local museums;

Geography – use of the locality for fieldwork, village trails;

Art and design – art gallery visits, use of the locality;

PE – a range of sporting fixtures, extra-curricular activities, visits by specialist coaches;

Music – a variety of specialist music teaching, extra-curricular activities;

Design and technology – visits to local factories or design centres, museums;

ICT – its use in local shops/libraries/secondary schools, businesses etc;

RE – visits to local centres of worship, visits by local clergy.

PSHE and citizenship – visit to the fire station or an old people's residential home, visits by local police officers and health workers, community action groups, community participation.

Enrichment activities

Children in all year groups have the opportunity to take part in enrichment activities on a regular basis. The opportunity for children at Elm Tree to experience new places, activities and challenges will link in with our PSHE/Thrive focus of developing the whole child. These enrichment activities will help pupils develop social, emotional, physical and wellbeing aspect of their personality and also establish trust and strong bonds

between peer groups, staff and activity facilitators. Our aim is to carefully select activities for groups which will focus on developing areas of need in a positive and safe but challenging environment.

This policy is monitored by the governing body and will be reviewed every two years, or before if necessary.

