



## **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 is understood to contribute to success in life, for example, being able to perform well in school, knowing how to talk in different social groups or societies, accessing higher education and being successful in work or a career.

Cultural Capital is about culture, language, traditions and experiences. Our approach is to provide and teach a curriculum that is rooted in ensuring that *all* pupils, particularly those who are disadvantaged, have equitable access to the essential knowledge and enriching experiences they need to become educated citizens.

At Beechcroft Infants School, we want to celebrate the uniqueness of us all and share our differences and individualism. 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.

We ensure that barriers to participation are actively identified and removed so that every pupil can benefit from a rich, knowledge-based curriculum and wide range of enrichment experiences.

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:**

## **Personal Development**

Our Personal Development offer is designed to ensure that pupils gain the essential knowledge and experiences needed to succeed in education and wider life.

Our trauma-informed approach helps create the emotionally safe, predictable and supportive environment pupils need to access the full range of enriching experiences, ensuring that barriers linked to early adversity do not limit their cultural capital development.

1. Personal, Social and Health Education / Jigsaw provision
2. The school's wider pastoral framework
3. Zones of Regulation
4. Transition support
5. Work to develop confidence e.g. role play, supporting peers
6. Activities focused on building self-esteem
7. Mental Health & well-being provision
8. Regular staff training in Trauma Informed Practice and de-escalation to support strong relationships for all

## **Social Development**

Our Social Development offer is designed to help pupils build positive relationships, develop a strong sense of belonging and understand how to contribute to their community. Through collaboration, pupil voice and shared responsibility, children learn how to navigate social situations with confidence and respect. This enables every pupil to access the social knowledge and experiences that strengthen their cultural capital and prepare them for life beyond the classroom.

1. The whole school ethos is about developing the whole child, and helping children understand our simple rules of Ready, Respectful and Safe
2. Pupil Voice –School Council, Eco Warriors and Digital Leaders
3. Children's Champion check ins and support
4. Achieved the Mental Health Award
5. Pastoral support from all staff
6. Personal, Social and Health Education / Jigsaw provision
7. Trips within the local environment
8. We hold regular charity events such as, Red Nose Day, Children in Need, Christmas Jumper Day

## **Physical Development**

Our Physical Development offer promotes healthy lifestyles, physical confidence and an understanding of personal well-being. By providing a broad range of physical activities, health education and opportunities to stay active, we ensure that children build the skills and habits needed to thrive physically. These experiences enhance pupils' cultural capital by developing resilience, teamwork and an appreciation of physical well-being.

1. The Physical Education curriculum including additional outdoor PE
2. Healthy Eating policies and catering provision; Gold Award
3. Anti-bullying and safeguarding policies and strategies, including the child-friendly policy
4. The Health Education dimension of the PSHE programme, including strands on drugs, smoking and alcohol
5. The extra-curricular clubs related to sports and Arts
6. Design and Technology units related to food preparation and nutrition

## **Spiritual Development**

Our Spiritual Development offer enables pupils to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences while showing curiosity and respect for the beliefs of others. Through moments of reflection, opportunities for awe and wonder, and engagement with diverse faiths and worldviews, pupils develop deeper self-awareness and empathy. These rich experiences broaden their understanding of the world and contribute meaningfully to their cultural capital.

1. The Religious Education Curriculum
2. Our collective acts of worship and reflection
3. Support for the expression of individual faiths
4. Visits to local religious buildings
5. Celebration Assemblies

## **Moral Development**

Our Moral Development offer supports pupils to understand right and wrong, make responsible choices and recognise the impact of their behaviour on others. Through consistent expectations, reflection and opportunities to practise positive

decision-making, children learn to act with integrity and fairness. This moral foundation strengthens their cultural capital by preparing them to contribute positively to society.

1. Consistent approach from all staff towards all members of the school community
2. The Religious Education Curriculum
3. The school's Behaviour policy
4. Understand our emotions through Zones of Regulation
5. The ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and their readiness to apply this understanding in their own lives
6. Positive reward system - Stickers and Praise, Bricks on the wall of fame, Golden book certificate, Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher and celebration assemblies
7. Contributions to local, national and international charitable projects.
8. School council and Eco Warriors
9. PSHE / Jigsaw Curriculum - exploring a wide range of issues.

### **Cultural Development**

Our Cultural Development offer exposes pupils to the richness and diversity of the world around them, helping them appreciate different cultures, traditions, arts and perspectives. By celebrating diversity and exploring significant events, people and creative disciplines, we expand pupils' understanding of the wider world. These experiences deepen their cultural awareness and play a vital role in shaping their cultural capital.

1. At Beechcroft Infants School we celebrate similarities and differences between people of the world
2. Subjects explore significant people, places or themes e.g. scientists, historical figures, genres in music
3. Celebration of Current Events e.g. Olympics, Royal Wedding
4. Arts education including Music, Dance, Art, PE and music from different genres
5. Recognition of important festivals such as Luna New Year, Diwali, Harvest and Eid
6. Staff actively share and celebrate the cultural traditions that are important to them, including events such as Eid, Diwali, and the patron saints' days of their

home countries, helping pupils appreciate the diversity within our school community.

7. Promotion of racial equality and community cohesion through the school's ethos, informing all policy and practice
8. We hold regular charity events such as, Red Nose Day, Children in Need, Christmas Jumper Day

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

See SMSC overview for further information.

**'Growing hearts, Shaping minds and Inspiring futures'**