Friendship and kindness

Teaching young people about the importance of kindness, tolerance and wellness in modern society



Why is this big idea so important for our children to understand?

In a world where conflict can be found in many places in our daily lives, teaching pupils the importance of friendship and kindness has never felt more important. This doesn't just mean kindness to others but kindness to ourselves, also. Learning about how to care for ourselves and others and how to demonstrate the key British value of tolerance is a vital part of modern education. The CUSP curriculum has prioritised opportunities to learn about kindness, tolerance and wellness in all areas of the curriculum. It is our ambition that pupils leave our schools knowing how to keep themselves well, how to spread kindness and as part of a force for good in our world.

Where can I find examples of this big idea across the CUSP curriculum?

Below are some examples of where this big idea is explicitly explored within the CUSP curriculum. This is not an exhaustive list but a starting point to help teachers understand the 3-dimensional nature of the curriculum architecture. Teachers should aim to explicitly connect learning within and across subjects to help build strong schemas of long-term understanding.

Science

Year 2 Animals, including humans:

Reference to keeping ourselves healthy through diet and exercise

Year 3 Animals, including humans:

Exploring the effects of the food that we eat on our wellbeing

Year 4 Animals, including humans:

Understanding the digestive system and oral hygiene

Year 5 Animals, including humans:

Reference to how humans mature

Year 6 Animals, including humans:

Pupils learn about heart health and the impact of exercise, drugs and lifestyle on their wellbeing

Reading:

Year 1 - Beegu

A beautiful story about an alien who is shown great kindness by children who find her lost and alone

Year 1 - Peace on Earth

An exploration of conflict and how we can overcome this

Year 2 - Paddington

A timeless classic exploring kindness, community and friendship

Year 3 - The Dancing Bear

Explores the complexities of families, friendships and identity

Year 4 - The Borrowers

An adventure story all about friendship and bravery

Year 6 - Rooftoppers

A fantastic tale of unlikely friendships and adventure

CUSP Assemblies:

Autumn assembly 6:

Fairness

Autumn assembly 7: Peace

Autumn assembly 14:

Listening

Summer assembly 1:

Kindness

