



Portlethen Academy

Learn and Improve. Get Involved. Think of the Consequences. Respect All.

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Dear parent/carer,

The current situation is presenting us with an opportunity to engage with pupils, parents and partners in a way we have not previously done, and we are keen to take advantage of it in order to make meaningful links and enhance pupil and parent engagement.

We would like to explore our school values a little further to ensure they remain at the core of our school community and acknowledge that they are evidenced in a variety of ways.

Taking inspiration from other schools, and namely XP School in Doncaster that some of our staff have visited recently, the values although teacher-led, must be pupil-engaged – we model them but pupils see their part in them and have ownership of them.

XP have character traits which are fully embedded in all aspects of the school – in curricular lessons and the wider activities of the school:

Courage

- To put ourselves outside our comfort zone to develop and deepen our learning character
- To have conviction in our thoughts and feelings and communicate them effectively
- To endeavour to succeed, even though there is a chance of failure

Respect

- To respect ourselves and others
- To work with others despite differences or difficulties
- To show consideration towards other people and our environment

Craftmanship and Quality

- To always strive to create beautiful work
- To take time and effort to draft, redraft and critique our work
- To aim for quality in our work that is indistinguishable from professionals

Compassion

- To show understanding, care, love and pride for ourselves and other people
- To be committed to contributing positively to our community
- To help others achieve

Integrity

- To be self-motivated to achieve our best
- To build resilience, responsibility and a never give up attitude
- To recognise the reasons for failure and, as a result, enhance our chance of success

The character traits manifest themselves in their HoWLs – Habits of Work and Learning:

Work Hard

- I arrive for each session on time and prepared
- I participate fully and mindfully in every lesson
- I complete all work in a timely manner to the best of my ability

Get Smart

- I take responsibility for my learning by asking questions and seeking help when needed
- I assessed my work based on established criteria and rubrics
- I welcome feedback and revise my work

Be Kind

- I communicate politely and kindly
- I work cooperatively with others
- I take care of resources and materials and act as a steward of our community

So how does this translate to Portlethen Academy? We already have our values which could be seen as the equivalent of both XP's HoWLs and character traits but to give further detail and explanation to each value, we could have three bullet points under each heading that evidence how we model them or what the basic expectations of that value should be. In order to ensure there is co-ownership of our values, we are creating this task and setting it for pupils, parents and community partners to complete in order to gather all views and collate the top, shared responses.

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What do the school values mean to you and how do you show them in school and at home/in the community?'

Discuss what this value means to you and how you evidence it in school, at home and in the community and even what it would look like in the workplace. Here are some examples of how you might demonstrate the values:

Get Involved

- ✓ Join extra-curricular groups
- ✓ Attend whole school House events
- ✓ Become a prefect, MWOW ambassador
- ✓ Sports Day
- ✓ Volunteer with a charity or in the community
- ✓ I contribute to group work in the classroom
- ✓ I answer questions in class discussions
- ✓ PPAG
- ✓ School Concerts

Respect All

- ✓ Listen to others
- ✓ Communicate politely
- ✓ Accept other people's opinions
- ✓ Work cooperatively with others
- ✓ Take care of resources and materials
- ✓ Respect myself and others
- ✓ Be polite
- ✓ Help others when they need it

Learn and Improve

- ✓ Arrive on time for classes
- ✓ Prepare for lessons
- ✓ Participate fully in lessons
- ✓ Complete all work in a timely manner
- ✓ I take responsibility for my learning
- ✓ Seek help when you need it
- ✓ Never give up
- ✓ Look at feedback constructively
- ✓ Regularly practice instruments or sports

Think of the Consequences

- ✓ Make positive contributions to the community
- ✓ Be self-motivated to achieve my best
- ✓ BE resilient
- ✓ Never give up
- ✓ Attend study support sessions
- ✓ Be part of extracurricular groups

In the first week we will be looking at '**Get involved**' After discussing this at home, complete the short form here:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQctawUZKcHqSgUO_5hNIPKW1fldxGhUNk wzTINDU1ZHTThYMEFQUUhITU04MEU4Ui4u

In the following weeks we will look at our remaining school values. These surveys are already open so you may complete them at your convenience. Please find the links to the surveys for these here:

Learn and Improve:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQctawUZKcHqSgUO_5hNIPKW1fldxGhUQlh XWExIRDI3U08yM1IHVDEwQjBQUlIWty4u

Respect All:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQctawUZKcHqSgUO_5hNIPKW1fldxGhUOTB LWFhQTVkwMlhYUkNSMDFMRVIGSjNWWi4u

Think of the Consequences:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQctawUZKcHqSgUO_5hNIPKW1fldxGhUQzh TRDYwT1IZTUtWUjAzS1k3Szl0VUc5Wi4u

If you have any questions about this task or wish to discuss it further, contact your DCT Tutor through your DCT Team. Thank you for taking the time to participate in this task.

Your sincerely

Mr I. Johnston

PT Pupil Development