

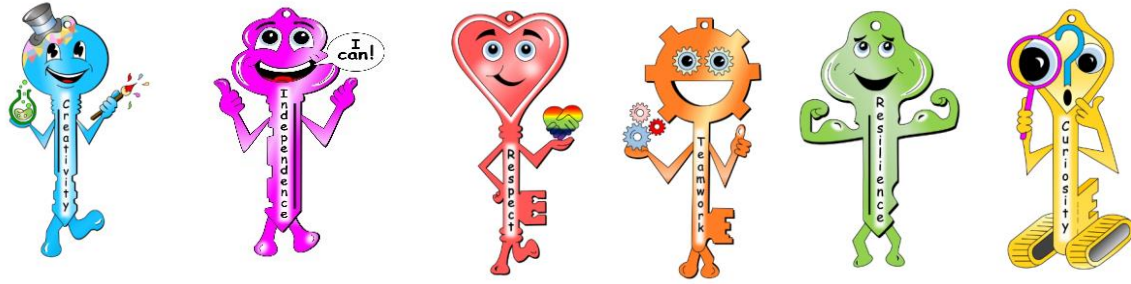
Orchard Primary School



Learning Behaviour Policy

‘Building A Better Me’





“Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education” – Martin Luther King Jr

We are all unique. We all have different experiences, dreams and challenges that shape us. Each one of us has our own personality and characteristics. As a school, we aspire to help children become the best that they can be by ‘Building A Better Me’. Our keys to ‘Building A Better Me’ include creativity, independence, respect, teamwork, resilience and curiosity. Through incorporating the keys into daily school life, we aim to ensure that children can reach for the stars, both during their time at Orchard and in the future. Our school aims to equip children, not only with excellent academic abilities, but also with personal characteristics which will enable them to be happy, healthy and to be all that they want to be in the future.

Learning Behaviours

Orchard’s Learning Behaviours integrate character into the classroom, making a positive impact on behaviour and supporting character development. Learning behaviours highlight the important link between how children learn and their social knowledge and behaviour. They support learning through self-regulation (controlling your own behaviour, emotions and thoughts) and enable children to be engaged in their learning. To achieve their goals in life, pupils will need a combination of curriculum skills and personality traits that work together to give them skills and strategies that can be applied to a diverse range of real world environments. Research has shown that character is key to children reaching their full potential and that we can develop character through conscious practice of characteristics.

Through Building A Better Me, children practice meta-cognition (learning to learn). As they work consciously on developing their character, children begin to make wise choices, use learning behaviours appropriate to a variety of activities and to reflect on tasks. Through unlocking creativity, independence, respect, resilience, teamwork and curiosity during their time at Orchard, children are well prepared for secondary school and their future lives.





Growth Mindset



At Orchard, we strive to promote a growth mindset approach towards character development. This means that we encourage pupils to see that their character and abilities

can be developed through dedication and hard work. We use the image of building up muscles to help children understand that the more they practice learning behaviours, the more that characteristic, or muscle, will build up. This mindset creates a love of learning and builds resilience. Pupils learn to apply the right attitude and build self control and focus over their efforts as a result of character being the foundation to all we do at school.

Our Learning Behaviours For Building A Better Me

Our learning behaviours for 'Building A Better Me' are presented as keys. Pupils are encouraged to unlock the different learning behaviours through using the keys. By using all of the keys, pupils are equipped to build their character, ready for life now and in the future.

Key To Building A Better Me	Explanations Of The Keys Written By Our Pupils
	<p>'Creativity means when you have artistic skills to do something. For example, when you paint something.'</p> <p>'Creativity is when you use your imagination to think of new ideas.'</p> <p>'You can show all of your creativity in drawing and painting. You can show creativity in language.'</p>
	<p>'Independence means you can do things for yourself. For example when you go on a swing and nobody needs to push you.'</p> <p>'Independence is when you don't ask for help and do it yourself.'</p> <p>'When you do something hard without any help. For example, do you know that you can do it by yourself?'</p>
	<p>'Respect is showing good manners at all times, also caring for people.'</p> <p>'Respect is where you admire somebody and care about what they say. For example, if somebody says something and you disagree, you still listen.'</p>
	<p>'Teamwork means you work as a group. For example, a number of people working or playing together.'</p> <p>'Teamwork is to help other people with different things.'</p> <p>'Teamwork is when a group of people are working together as one. For example a football team working to win a match.'</p>

	<p>'Resilience means when you don't get something right the first time, you try and try again.'</p> <p>'Keep going, don't stop, work hard.'</p> <p>'Resilience is where you can't do something but you don't give up.'</p>
	<p>'Curiosity means you are eager to learn and discover things.'</p> <p>'When you have a desire to learn things you don't know. For example, asking your teacher a question.'</p> <p>'Curiosity is when you are eager to learn something new.'</p>

Building A Better Me and Behaviour

Through encouraging children to unlock the keys to Build A Better Me, there is a strong, positive impact on their behaviour. For example, through being respectful to others, children use kind words and keep their hands and feet to themselves. Through being resilient and using Take 5, children learn how to self-regulate when they begin to feel cross or annoyed with somebody. We also encourage children to do the right thing because it is the right thing to do, not just that it should be done for an extrinsic reward. Children learn to manage their own behaviour, not out of fear of sanctions or for a reward. This means that their motivation to behave comes from an inner sense of doing the right thing, which equips them for their future lives.

This is based upon ABA's 10 Key Principles to Reduce Bullying Schools: listen; include; respect; challenge; celebrate difference; understand; believe; report bullying; take action and have clear policies.

Please see our separate Positive Relationships Policy for more information concerning behaviour.

Introduction and Embedding of Learning Behaviours

In Nursery and Reception, children are encouraged to understand and develop resilience, respect, teamwork, independence, curiosity and creativity by them being integral to everything we do and say in the Foundation stage. They are constantly referred to and explained using both positive and negative examples. Children are asked to verbalize their understanding of the keys, use the vocabulary and make choices about what they think they have unlocked. "Building a Better me" is an all encompassing aspect of our daily work and really does become embedded in all that the staff and the children say and do, meaning that children moving into

school have an already established, but growing understanding of what it means and how they can continue to grow and improve.

As children progress through their time at Orchard, learning behaviours to Build A Better Me continue to be the foundation to all their learning (for how we do this practically, see the next section). This leads to children who are in control of their actions and know how to be the best they can be. Through praising the use and development of character, children learn that you get out what you put in. In this way, children are motivated and independent, developing a sense of self that enables them to dream big for the future. Children also develop resilience and build self-esteem, knowing that they can bounce back from life's challenges like a tennis ball.

Incorporating Learning Behaviours Into School Life

At Orchard, we incorporate learning behaviours into all aspects of school life. This includes:

- Large Building A Better Me display in the hall to celebrate when children unlock the keys.
- Weekly Super Six Shout Out Assemblies where children who go above and beyond to demonstrate the Building A Better Me keys are celebrated each week.
- The keys to Building A Better Me are displayed in every classroom.
- Teachers refer to the learning behaviour keys during lessons and discuss with the children which key they are unlocking. As children grow older, they are able to identify for themselves which aspects of their character they will require for an activity.
- Teachers give feedback to children who have unlocked the keys to Building A Better Me. Children may also give each other feedback in relation to the keys.
- Take 5 is a resilience building programme based on short breathing activities. The whole school follows a Take 5 practice after break time and after lunch time. The children have reported that they are using Take 5 for themselves at school and at home when they face challenges, feel cross or upset and that it is helping them to become more resilient.
- The Personal Development TLR gathers evidence to monitor Building A Better Me across school. This includes quotes and anecdotes from children, staff, parents and visitors, looking at children's self-assessments of the keys, monitoring class award trackers and observations from Governors.

Communicating With Parents/Carers

At Orchard, we aim to share the learning behaviours with parents/carers through a variety of means. This includes:

- Weekly Super Six Shout Out Assemblies where children who go above and beyond to demonstrate the Building A Better Me keys are celebrated each week.

- Class Dojo is also used to award children with dojos which are linked to the keys. Teachers are able to include a note about what the child did.
- Inclusion of learning behaviour keys in the newsletter.
- Information about the learning behaviours on the website.
- Inclusion of the keys in children's Personal Organisers.
- Inclusion of the keys on reports in the annual report to parents/carers.
- Discussion of the keys during parents' evenings
- Character updates as part of existing events, such as at the start of a school production or sports day

(Some information adapted from materials by Steve Harris www.wellbeingeducation.co.uk)