



2019 Annual Conference

Friday 12th July - Northampton Academy



To register please visit: www.character-education.org.uk/conference

2019 CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

- 9.45** Arrival – Tea/Coffee
- 10.15** **Welcome and Introductions**
Nat Parnell, Principal – Northampton Academy and Gary Lewis, Chairman ACE
- 10.35** **Keynote Presentation**
- **‘Character Education in the new Ofsted Framework’**
Roary Pownall HMI - National Lead for Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship
- 11.05** **Keynote Presentation**
- **‘Ethos. Ethos. Ethos. Why it matters and how it works.’**
Jill Rowe - Director, Oasis Ethos & Formation
- 11.35** **Workshop Session 1**
- **A. ‘Building Character into the Academic Curriculum’**
Ellie Canham - Character Education Lead, Windsor Academy Trust
 - **B. ‘Can Working On PP Students’ Character Improve their Overall Performance?’**
Ruth Jennings - Deputy Head, Kings Langley
 - **C. ‘Implementing a Whole - School Approach to Character Education in a Primary Setting’**
Tom Taylor - Smiths Wood Primary
 - **D. ‘The Prince William Award – Developing Character & Resilience’**
John Cahill - Area Manager, Skillforce
 - **E. ‘Compassion Matters – Teaching Compassion and Character’**
Jimi Slattery - Executive Director, Compassion Matters
 - **F. ‘Empathy: What? Why? How?’**
Hugo Shepherd - Managing Director, Role Models
 - **G. ‘Developing Character Education & Virtues in a Primary School Setting’**
Shona Pye - Director of The Character Tree (formerly VINE)
- 12.30** **Lunch**
- 13.00** **Tea/Coffee**
- 13.15** **Workshop Session 2**
- **A. ‘Parental Engagement is Key for Character Programme to Work’**
Carlington Anderson - Director of Character
 - **B. ‘The Jamie’s Farm Approach: Vulnerable Children Need Both Nurture and Challenge to Flourish’**
Jake Curtis - Director of Operations, Jamie’s Farm
 - **C. ‘Teaching Virtues in an Inner City Secondary School’**
Harleen Assi - Director of Virtues, Ark Boulton Academy
 - **D. ‘Designing a curriculum for Character Education’**
Rachael Hunter & Ben Miller - Researchers, Jubilee Centre
 - **E. ‘Character Development Across the Curriculum- Designing a Curriculum to Develop the Whole Child’**
Lekha Sharma - Principal, Ark Oval Primary Academy
 - **F. ‘Developing Character Formation - Why Does it Matter? Principles of Character Formation in the Classroom’**
Bindu Rai - Krishna Avanti Primary
- 14.15** **Keynote Presentation**
- Jon Coles - CEO, United Learning
- 14.45** **Closing Remarks**
Principal – Nat Parnell and Gary Lewis



2019 CONFERENCE 11:35 WORKSHOPS

Building Character into the Academic Curriculum

Ellie Canham

Character Education Lead, Windsor Academy Trust

This session will involve a discussion on opportunities in the academic curriculum subjects to embed virtue topics and language; an overview of what Windsor Academy Trust has done so far and evidence of impact. Some ideas for 'tracking character' will also be shared - a self-reflection tool for students and families, and the links to careers.

Can Working On PP Students' Character Improve their Overall Performance?

Ruth Jennings

Deputy Head, Kings Langley

Some insight into a small piece of trial in-house research which looked at using dilemmas with PP students to see if this would improve their decision making and thought process, and therefore have an impact on their overall performance at school.

Developing Character Education & Virtues in a Primary School Setting

Shona Pye

Director of The Character Tree (formerly VINE)

'The Character Tree - Wellbeing from the roots up' (Formerly VINE)

Shona will introduce her training consultancy 'The Character Tree' and how Shona has brought Character Education and Virtues into over 15 primary schools in Cornwall. She will share her new book 'Character Education - The Star Awards Programme for Primary Schools' (Through Rising Stars) as a valuable resource for Character Education. This will be an interactive workshop giving us time to reflect on our own character and to think about the character strengths that we have and those we want to grow and develop. Giving us a better understanding of how working with virtues or character qualities can enable children to tap in to their own strengths and innate resources, so they can face some of life's challenges with a stronger sense of self belief and wellbeing.

Implementing a Whole - School Approach to Character Education in a Primary Setting

Tom Taylor

Smiths Wood Primary

Having achieved the School of Character Kitemark in 2018, this workshop will discuss practical strategies and resources that bring Character Education to the forefront of a primary school through adopting a whole-school approach.

The Prince William Award – Developing Character & Resilience

John Cahill

Area Manager, Skillforce

The workshop will be designed to introduce the kind of experiential learning employed by PWA instructors; aimed usually between ages 6-14. Over the course of the session, participants will be able to take part in activities that highlight how students take part in an immersive process of experiential, and reflective, learning over a 36-week period that is proving to have a profound impact on how a child views his or her self, enabling them to apply that sense of identity and potential to their onward journey of school and life.

Compassion Matters – Teaching Compassion and Character

Jimi Slattery

Executive Director, Compassion Matters

This workshop will explore the role secular ethics, values and social-emotional learning can play in character education. The session will look at the research behind ethics teaching, learning frameworks, practical examples and the impact so far of the Compassion Matters (www.compassion-matter.org) project developed by the Dalai Lama Centre for Compassion (www.dlccoxford.org). It is aimed at any schools with interest in this field.

Empathy: What? Why? How?

Hugo Shepherd

Managing Director, Role Models

'Role Models' is a character education based company offering a range of courses to children in life skills, as well as support for schools and parents. We aim to inspire a generation of children to become the very best they can be, through teaching them how to communicate well, collaborate effectively, think critically, solve problems creatively and lead brilliantly. This workshop will explore the importance of developing empathy in young people, in order to prepare them for their future and to positively impact the quality of their relationships in the here and now.

What?

What is empathy and what does it look like? How is it different to sympathy?

Why?

What impact can it have? Why is it such an important thing to have and demonstrate? Why is it important for your pupils, for your classroom and for you as a practitioner?

How?

How can we help young people develop their empathy? Example activities and strategies shared. How do our Role Model courses aim to develop empathy?

This workshop is relevant for teachers, educationalists, those working with young people and those interested in the importance of life skills

2019 CONFERENCE 13.15 KEYNOTES

Parental Engagement is Key for Character Programme to Work **Carlington Anderson**

Director of Character

It is clear that the work on Character that is undertaken at schools can quickly unravel if not supported at home. As a school we have trialled a new format for a Parents evening in Year 7 and will talk through what we have done and then feedback from parents. This parents evening is aimed at trying to engage them with the school and get the harder to reach parents to attend.

The Jamie's Farm Approach: Vulnerable Children Need Both Nurture and Challenge to Flourish

Jake Curtis

Director of Operations, Jamie's Farm

At Jamie's Farm, we work with the most vulnerable children in secondary schools: those at risk of exclusion, very low self-esteem and under achieving academically. Over the last decade, we've developed an approach centring on farming, family and therapy which builds self-esteem and resilience by providing children with a nurturing, supportive environment with purposeful, challenging jobs. This approach can be transferred into schools, both in classrooms and extra-curricular activities. We believe a culture of nurture and stretch is what we all need to flourish and should be a core part of school culture to help everyone be at their best. By looking at both the academic foundations and practicalities of our approach, we will give you some tools that you can apply in your school.

This workshop would be applicable to anyone with an interest in Character Education, but particularly those on senior leadership teams.

Teaching Virtues in an Inner City Secondary School

Harleen Assi

Director of Virtues, Ark Boulton Academy

This workshop will focus on how to prepare future generations to be role models in society through character development of virtues to navigate the challenges of modern day life. This is aimed toward Secondary Heads and also those in charge of Character Education at secondary schools.

Designing a curriculum for Character Education

Rachael Hunter & Ben Miller

Researchers, Jubilee Centre

This workshop will be a practical guide to how we have developed a 'taught' course for character for KS2 and KS3. This will be of interest to both primary and secondary teachers and leaders - particularly, those with responsibility for PSHE, Citizenship and/or character Education in their schools.

Character Development Across the Curriculum- Designing a Curriculum to Develop the Whole Child

Lekha Sharma

Principal, Ark Oval Primary Academy

The workshop will focus on how we have designed a bespoke curriculum for the pupils in our locality to ensure that character development and the development of values/virtues are woven across both core and foundation subjects.

Teachers, curriculum leads and senior leaders may be interested in the workshop.

Developing Character Formation - Why Does it Matter? Principles of Character Formation in the Classroom

Bindu Rai

Krishna Avanti Primary

The Avanti Trust vision is for its schools to progressively foster confident, articulate, philosophically reflective, mindful, loving, and spiritually aware students who contribute meaningfully as positive, socially responsible British citizens.

The aim of the workshop is to share the Journey of how Character is nurtured through Philosophy, Religion and Ethics. It will discuss challenges that schools face in preparing Children to flourish in a complicated, uncertain world. Reference will be made to the new Ofsted framework, State of Nation report - 2017 and Mental health and wellbeing provision in schools review.



Association *for* Character Education



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