



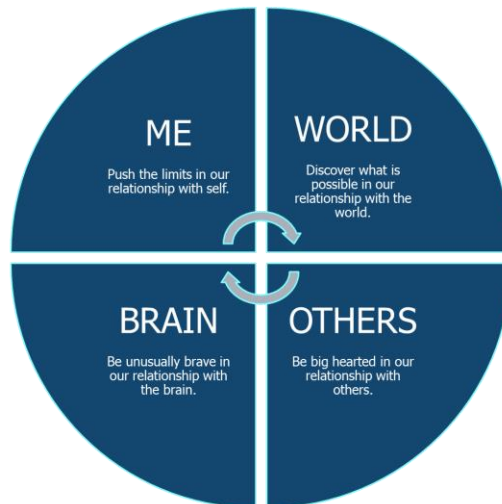
'GROWN AT GASKELL'









Character Curriculum

Intent

Our character curriculum is at the core of what is important to us and we aim to provide a wide range of learning opportunities and experiences. It is our desire that children and their families value their learning and seize all and any opportunity wholeheartedly. Therefore, we aim to ensure the offer to learn is strong in every classroom.

We aim to develop our children's characters through the growth of relationships that define us as human. Through our curriculum, we develop a set of competencies (behaviours) which enable each and every one of our children to lead a successful life and **'become a successful citizen in today and tomorrow's world.'** These competencies are summarised as follows:



ME	WORLD	BRAIN	OTHERS
Push the limits in our relationship with self.	Discover what is possible in our relationship with the world.	Be unusually brave in our relationship with the brain.	Be big-hearted in our relationship with others.
We always strive to push the limits. We don't settle for less than excellent and we won't allow our children to either. We resolve to overcome any self-imposed limits.	We are on the search for discovering what's possible. We look to create 'eureka moments' for our children, helping them discover a world of possibilities and opportunities.	At Gaskell, we choose to be unusually brave. We're not afraid to challenge wrongs, to make the right call, even when it's both unusual and difficult to do so.	We commit to being big-hearted. We choose to treat other with kindness, warmth and care, believing that everybody matters and believing in one another.
Confidence, responsibility, managing change, self-awareness	Culture, nature, financial literacy, technology	Creative thinking, critical thinking, problem solving	Teamwork, help others, leadership, communication
 	 	 	 
Please click: Skills Overview			

Implementation

Our character curriculum is planned into all aspects of our 'Grown for Gaskell' curriculum within school. This includes:

- Our school values – HEARTS (Happiness, Empathy, Ambition, Respect, Resilience, Tolerance and self-confidence)
- All our children will represent the school during their time at Gaskell
- Assemblies
- British Values (Rule of law, liberty, democracy, tolerance and respect)
- Within our lessons – Gaskell's Principles to Learning is our teaching model and our approach to delivering any learning
- Curriculum subjects
- Bright Leaders
- Rights Respecting School
- Outdoor Learning and Forest Schools
- **Please click:** [Cultural Capital Enhancements](#)

Our School Drivers enhance the National Curriculum to support the needs and personal development of our children. They address current gaps in knowledge, skills and topical issues, which we believe will give our children the best attributes to achieve.

Our 'Drivers in Detail'



Healthy Pioneers

It is important to us that all members of our school family are healthy – physically and mentally. Throughout life, our children will face many difficult challenges and need to have the physical and mental resilience to be successful and happy. Children are aware that their own health is an important aspect of their place in the world. We recognise the responsibility we have for the physical development and wellbeing of our children. We are passionate that a curriculum rich in sport and physical activity, along with participation in competition develops confidence, empathy and resilience.

World Citizens

We believe our children need to develop an understanding about where they live and the wider world. Through learning about the world, we want them to understand their role in today and tomorrow's world by developing respect and tolerance towards the environment, communities and religions. Children are encouraged to challenge themselves to gain high aspirations about what their future 'world of work' may look like.

Avid Adventurers

We are passionate that children are excited about the real world. We believe that a curriculum rich in real life experiences develops confidence and resilience. We want them to know that life exists outside school, their home and local community. There is a world waiting to be explored. We will allow them to manage risk-taking by having lots of fun and experiencing a little danger. These learning experiences will ignite the imagination and advance their knowledge and understanding, taking into account their diverse starting points and enrich their experiences of life.

Confident Communicators

We believe that our children need to develop the skills to work well with other people. Children need to know how to speak and listen with respect in a variety of different situations. They need the ability to read well and read widely as this broadens horizons, develops imagination and provides a rich vocabulary through which to construct knowledge and understanding of the world. Being able to write confidently, for a range of purpose and audiences, will be reflected as a key skill in our curriculum to develop this ability. We will give the children opportunities to think critically by solving problems and making choices.

Creative Minds

In our school, children will be engaged by a curriculum rich in creativity and expression. They will be encouraged to express themselves through the medium of dance, music, art, design and drama. Individuality and self-expression are promoted whilst developing resilience, resourcefulness and risk taking when faced with more challenging tasks. Creativity is encouraged in all areas; the arts are an important aspect of our school life.

Implementation beyond the classroom

Every two years, children are issued with a new 'Grown at Gaskell' Experience Passport and copies of these are sent home in reading records.



The experiences that extend beyond the school day, may require some family support. Children can evidence this through pictures (SEESAW) and witness statements from family members. The experiences involve problem solving, research and most importantly life skills, such as housework, budgeting and preparing meals, which are fundamental for pupil wellbeing.

At the end of each Key Stage, we hold a Character Awards ceremony, for children and parents, who have successfully completed the 'Grown at Gaskell' Experience Passport. They will be awarded with a Grown at Gaskell badge. There will be 4 to collect. One for each key stage.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Each term, all children are offered the chance to join extra-curricular school clubs. Club choices range from lacrosse to chess; cookery to choir. These clubs ensure that children are offered a broad curriculum and a wide range of experiences in their school career. The clubs are extremely popular and the children are expected to attend their selected club every week, ensuring commitment and resilience are intrinsic to the programme.

Additional Sports Experiences

In addition to PE, we offer a range of sporting activities every morning and after school. We also participate in local leagues and regional competitions. Not only do these encourage children to

understand the importance of a fit and healthy lifestyle, but also the importance of teamwork, leadership and communication.

Residentials, Trips and Visitors into School

Year Group	Residential/Opportunity
3	Overnight stay on the school grounds
4	3 days/2 nights at an outdoor activity centre in the Lake District
5	2 days/ 1 night visiting London, including a walking tour of major landmarks, visiting a museum, watching a West End show and visiting Harry Potter World
6	3 days/2 nights residential experience in North Wales at Robinwood outdoor activity centre.

In addition, we also provide a wide range of trips and visitors for all our children linked to our curriculum.

Outdoor Learning and Forest Schools

Our own Forest School area (the thicket) is well used by the whole school and helps to promote and foster risk taking, independent thinking and an appreciation for nature.

Homework tasks

Children are encouraged to research, design, create and express themselves at home as well as in school.

Parental Engagement

We give parents the opportunity to help their child to develop their relationships with themselves, the world, others and their brain. We have three family walks over the academic year, where parents are encouraged to attend with their children. In addition, we also have class assemblies, subject meetings and workshops (including E-Safety and mental health) that parents can attend. This allows them to help their child with their learning at home.

Interventions

Across the school, we tightly monitor behaviour and attitudes in our children and put in intervention programmes where needed. These are tailored to the child's needs but often include emotion management, self-regulation and social skills.





Impact

By the time our children leave school, they are equipped with the skills and character to lead a successful life and **'become a successful citizen in today and tomorrow's world.'**

Academic achievement will increase as children will be more able to overcome difficulties and will value their education; behaviour will improve as children are more able to self-regulate and work with others and attendance will improve as families see the increased value of a healthy lifestyle and the importance of education.

Our 'I AM' Pledge

By the time our children leave school, Gaskell Primary School will have offered them the opportunity to say 'I AM'...

<p>'I AM' a Healthy Pioneer</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • able to make responsible choices about my own physical and mental wellbeing • able to behave respectfully in competitions • confident in who 'I AM' • able to make healthy choices for a healthy mind and healthy body
<p>'I AM' a World Citizen</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aware of my place in the world and how I can make a positive difference • respectful and tolerant of all people and cultures around the world • proud to be a world citizen • able to shape my future dreams and aim for the stars
<p>'I AM' an Avid Adventurer</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • passionate about finding new places to explore and discover • confident to manage risks to expand my knowledge and horizons • able to take the lead and inspire others to enrich my own and others' lives
<p>'I AM' a Confident Communicator</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • able to use my rich vocabulary to communicate in a variety of situations • safely accessing the virtual world around me using a range of technology • able to think critically before solving problems • using my own personal library and have a 'Love of Reading' • able to write legibly, fluently and confidently
<p>'I AM' a Creative Mind</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • able to demonstrate my individuality through expressive arts. • able to appreciate other people's talents • able to use my creativity as a way to overcome challenges and barriers