Paget Primary School Values Practice

Vision
To be the best that we can be.

School Aims
- To build a community based upon shared values and respect, which recognises the skills and achievements of all.
- To nurture individuals to be confident and motivated with high expectations of themselves and others.
- To provide a safe, secure, caring and healthy environment for all.
- To provide a curriculum which develops thinking and learning skills, promotes internationalism, creativity and curiosity.
- To enable all to become autonomous, responsible learners and sensitive global citizens.

Motto of the Year 2014 - 2015
(to be decided e.g. ‘Use all your gifts to make a better world for all’)

Paget Primary is a Values School. It is our Values that determine our thinking and behaviour. Through a Values-based Education, a positive culture for teaching and learning is created which is based upon valuing ourselves, each other and the environment. Our School Values support the development of the whole child.

At Paget Primary School we use our values to support the children in reaching our school mission statement, yearly motto and school aims. Our aim is to provide a calm, happy and purposeful learning environment within a caring community. We encourage an active partnership between children, parents, teachers, governors and the whole community. Parents are encouraged to develop the monthly Value at home through our newsletter, class booklets and putting their child forward for a class token for demonstrating the values at home.

Why have values?
The ethos of our school is built on a foundation of 22 core Values which are addressed directly through lessons, assemblies and across the whole curriculum. Each month we focus on a particular Value. We learn to understand what the Values looks like and how we can demonstrate the Value, in the way we behave, in our attitude towards each other and in our learning.

We want values to be felt and believed; seen and heard every minute of the every day. A set of core values gives all in our community a common purpose, an ethos that supports the pupils as a reflective learner and in turn, promotes quality teaching and learning.

A People’s Place
If this is not the place where tears are understood,  
Where do I go to cry?
If this is not the place where my spirit can take wing,  
Where do I go to fly?
If this is not the place where my questions can be asked,  
Where do I go to seek?
If this is not the place my feelings can be heard,  
Where do I go to speak?
If this is not the place where you’ll accept me as I am,  
Where do I go to be?
If this is not the place where I can try and learn to grow,  
Where can I just be me?

William J Crocker
What are our values?
They are the principles that guide the way we behave. Paget Primary School Values were carefully identified by children, parents, teachers and governors through participation in training together with Professor Neil Hawkes and through parent workshops and staff meetings during 2012. Twenty-two core values were decided upon. They are taught on a two year rolling programme which began during September 2012. The core values are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Peace</td>
<td>Courage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Respect</td>
<td>Tolerance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Confidence</td>
<td>Self-Belief</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Thoughtfulness</td>
<td>Appreciation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Perseverance</td>
<td>Resilience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Being Friendly</td>
<td>Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Patience</td>
<td>Self-Discipline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Independence</td>
<td>Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Co-operation</td>
<td>Unity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Honesty</td>
<td>Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Ambition</td>
<td>Hope</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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During the seven to eight years children may spend at Paget, the children will revisit a value up to four times, progressively gaining deeper understanding each time the value is taught.

What are the needs of our children?
For the school to be effective and for values to be meaningful, an understanding of the basic needs of our children is appreciated by all staff.
Our children need:
- to be loved
- to be nurtured
- to feel secure and safe and know exactly what is expected of them

We encourage the development of the following skills throughout the school which contribute to reflective thinking:
- displaying helpful politeness and good manners to all at school, and to visitors
- using imagination
- stillness
- visualization
- walking quietly about the building
- care and respect for other people’s property
- listening carefully and thinking about what other people have to say
- accepting personal responsibility for actions
- speaking politely to other people
- positive attitudes to play and work
- being able to express feelings constructively, and so learning to manage feelings and resolve conflicts through discussion, understanding and practice
How do we achieve this at Paget?

Reflection, stillness and quiet
Children are encouraged at Paget to reflect on their behaviour in the light of the core values. They are helped to understand that if they think carefully about the values, their behaviour will become more positive and the quality of their learning and their lives enhanced.

We give time for stillness and quiet reflection to help the children to take responsibility for their learning and their behaviour. We give time for reflection and stillness in our assemblies, in the classroom and with individual children.

We have worked, as a school, with an artist in residence to create a values sculpture in our playground to remind us of our core values. This has been erected in our front playground. It is a quiet place to meet with friends, or to be reflective. The values are displayed around the garden as a reminder to the children of the values we hold dear as a school. The garden has been planted with fragrant plants such as lavender, thyme and daphnia.

Role Models
All staff at Paget act as role models for children, parents and other adults within the community. We understand that research shows that the behaviour of the teacher is the most important factor in creating the climate for success or failure of the pupils in our care. We want children to copy our attitudes and behaviours and not those they see every day in the news and on television. We take care therefore, to ensure we remain consistent and are true to ourselves. We model positive behaviour through the remarks we make, our attitudes and our expectations. *'The better you know yourself and how you are seen by others, the more effective a role model you will be!’ Neil Hawkes.*

Having demonstrated the desired behaviours we want the children to embrace, we then give the children the opportunity to reflect upon their own behaviours and how they might improve them. To ensure we model the correct values at all times staff self-assess themselves through questions such as:

- Am I aware of the values I convey to the pupils?
- What values do I model in the way I teach – patience, respect, trust?
- Am I consistent in the messages (by words and actions) that I give to pupils during lessons and around school?
- Am I calm and friendly?
- Am I prepared to share my own thoughts and experiences with pupils?

We ensure we model our values to parents and the wider community by:

- being ourselves when we talk to parents
- being warm and friendly
- being honest and supportive
- listening to parents carefully before giving replies to their questions
- being calm and reflective when they are emotionally wound up
- making ourselves available for informal discussions

Assemblies
The Values assembly is taken on a Monday morning and sets the scene for the week. The assembly is taken by a member of SLT and the purpose is to introduce the new core value or to reinforce the core value of the month already introduced. All children and staff attend. Values assemblies are also taken on Thursday during the autumn term. The assembly takes many different forms and includes stories, anecdotes, current affairs and celebrations from the UK and around the world. Class assemblies are taken during the spring and summer terms on Thursdays and the core value is included, so that the parents know how the values fit into the children’s learning.
A central focus such as a power point presentation or some display is used to help the children think about the theme of the assembly. On Tuesday and Wednesday collective worship either takes place in the classroom or is used for a Singing Assembly where children learn songs based around values. The children and staff enter to music being played which sets the mood for the assembly. This can either be a song with a particular theme or instrumental music to create a calm or reflective mood. The teacher taking the assembly is seated at the front and the other adults are seated at the sides of the room. All adults model the behaviour that is expected of the children and no adult talks to another. All teaching staff and children attend these assemblies. At the end of the assembly the children sit quietly and still to reflect. An image of a flickering flame is used to create a calm and spiritual atmosphere and to give a central focus for reflection. The assembly ends with an appropriate prayer for that particular assembly or the School Prayer. The assembly is planned on the Assembly planning sheet found on the j drive in the assembly folder. After the assembly, it is filed in the assembly folder held in the Assistant Head’s office.

Curriculum and Planning
Values underpin all that we do at Paget; it cannot be taught in isolation only. Values lessons are planned for each week and are identified on the weekly timetable. This can be a standalone lesson or part of another curriculum area. The planning format for values can be found on the j drive in blank proformas/planning. A Value of the Month board is displayed in the entrance to school and outside the hall to remind all pupils and staff of the value we are promoting. Each class contributes to the board outside the hall. Each class has a Values display in their classroom which depicts the value of the month, work done by the children and any other relevant materials or resources. These values are constantly referred to and reiterated and reinforced throughout the year. Recording of the lesson is either completed in the children’s Paget Learning Profile (PLP) or in the class learning log.

Recognition and rewards
Children are awarded a certificate each week in our special assembly for demonstrating the Value of the month. Their photographs are displayed in the corridor. Each month, the children are rewarded with a specific token each time they demonstrate the value for that month e.g. Courage – silver bells. The tokens are given out to classes during the first assembly of the month. The tokens are collected in a ‘token bucket’. At the end of the month the tokens are tipped into the ‘token tower’, where all the values earned for the year are displayed. If children demonstrate a value which has already been specifically taught that academic year, then the children will also earn additional tokens which, are also put into the ‘token bucket’ and then into the ‘token tower’. The more the children demonstrate their values the more tokens they earn. At the end of the year during a values assembly all the tokens earned throughout the school are put into one bucket and displayed. The class who has earned the most tokens throughout the year receives 5 Paget Pounds.

Parental involvement
Induction
During the Induction meeting with parents, the school values are introduced and the ethos behind them explained. A list of the twenty-two values is included in the pack given out to parents in the form of a Parent’s Pocket Practice. This can be referred to at home as a reminder of what Values Based Education is all about at Paget.
Parent Workshops
These are held at various times of the year and parents will be notified of the content of the workshop and timings.

Class Assembly
Class assemblies are held during the spring and summer terms on Thursdays at 3pm to enable parents to attend. As well as demonstrating and celebrating the learning that has taken place, the core values are included and demonstrated. This enables parents to understand how the values fit into and support the children’s learning. Parents are asked to give feedback in varying forms at the end of the assembly whilst waiting to collect their child at the end of the school day.

Parents’ Evening
Work done by children about values can be viewed by parents at Parents’ Evening. The displays on the wall, the Class Log and the children’s Paget Learning Logs all show the current and past learning that has taken place. Values and behaviour will form part of the discussion had with parents. It is also an opportunity for parents to ask any questions they may have regarding the teaching of values.

Parents’ Questionnaire
Parents are asked at the Summer Parents’ Evening to complete a short questionnaire to support Paget in improving the quality of the provision and the experience of the children.

School Prospectus
The 22 Values are displayed in the School Prospectus given out to parents during the induction process. The philosophy behind the values and our practice at Paget concerning Values Based Education is explained to parents.

School Website
The 22 values are displayed on the school website for all parents, governors and visitors who visit the website over the months to enable them to see that Paget is a Values Based School and to understand the philosophy behind this.

School Newsletter
The value of the month is included in the monthly newsletter to parents. There is a brief explanation of what the values mean and their importance in the development of their child. Included are some ideas and activities that parents might like to try at home to support the understanding of the current value being taught. The school newsletter is available on the school web site.

Class Booklet
Each class sends home a class booklet informing parents of the learning taking place the following half term. Included in this information is the values work that will be happening in that class. These class booklets are also available on the school web site.

EYFS & KS1 Values Bear
Nursery to Year 2 will have a Paget Bear which will go home each week with a child. Parents will be invited to take photographs and write comments in the Values Book which will accompany the bear in the rucksack. The bear will follow the children through the four years that the children are in EYFS & KS1. Parents will be given a definition of each value and ideas to support activities at home.
Parent Nominations
Parents will be invited to submit their nomination for their child to receive a Paget Token for values displayed at home by their child. These nominations will be read out in class and a token put into the token tower. Parents will be able to obtain a nomination form from the school office or download a form from the school website.

Twitter
All classes and groups Tweet about their activities during the school day. This includes work on values.

Open Door Policy
Paget operates an open door policy in which we encourage parents to talk to us about their concerns and to clarify any misconceptions or misunderstanding that may arise during the school day. We encourage parents to make an appointment with staff after school if there is a need for an more in depth discussion.

This is what the children of Paget have said about values:
I show love at home in every way. Values are very important.
Values are the coolest thing.
I like the way we use values, in the way everyone likes.

This what the parents have said about values:
Overall, I am happy with my child’s experience of learning about Values – Very.
I think learning about values is great and ties in well with what (my child) learns at home and at church
I have noticed how my child demonstrates Values at home – 100%
Fantastic idea bringing Values into the kid’s learning. Thank you
We sometimes discuss the values and what they mean. The half term homework about values shown each day was good as it enabled us to discuss values we do every day without realising and the values we don’t do enough of!