

Personal Development

Dear Parents/carers,

Schools across the country often refer to 'personal development', but what is this?

Our school curriculum includes all the academic subjects you would expect, such as English, Maths, Science, History, Geography, Art, French, PE and so on, but we also look at how we can support your child to develop as a rounded citizen of the future and how they develop the confidence and resilience needed for their lives.

Below are a few examples of what this can look like at Newdale for your child.

Soon, we look forward to welcoming Buddy Bear back to Newdale for a visit! He likes to check that all the children are feeling safe and happy in school. Some of the ways we ensure this happens are below:

- Our Life Learning curriculum encompasses citizenship, personal, social, health and economic education as well as relationships and sex education. We also celebrate British Values in assembly each Thursday (and regularly in class), looking at current affairs and how it impacts all our lives. Your child will be able to tell you the fundamental British values of democracy, individual liberty, the rule of law, and mutual respect and tolerance.
- In addition, our regular and exciting extra-curricular opportunities such as residential and other varied trips, cinema and theatre experiences, regular visitors to the school, walks around the local area, family events and so much more ensure we support your child's wider development.
- Tuesday and Wednesday assemblies are based solely on the BeSMART Code and Safeguarding... these are valuable opportunities to discuss kind friendships, road safety, e-safety to name a few. Our safeguarding champions and school parliament are often involved in these assemblies too, ensuring our school is all-inclusive and respects everyone.
- Our BeSMART code now includes Behaviour – we are so proud of all children's excellent behaviour in school, we wanted to celebrate it. The positivity of all teaching staff, including our pastoral team supports with this and ensures everyone feels listened to.
- Safeguarding Champions are visible to all pupils through their bright red jumpers – their role is to be ambassadors for the pupils: children of their own age who they can go to with worries, problems or solutions!
- The best way to find out how the children feel is to ask them! We carry out regular pupil voice sessions using a wide cross section of pupils, and ensuring they are different every time. We might ask about what they like or would like

to improve about their learning or what ideas they have to further improve the school.

- Our weekly Achievement Assembly gives every pupil the opportunity to strive to be the best they can be, as well as the time to come together as a whole school team, recognising the contributions made by everyone in school. Here we celebrate excellent behaviour, classwork, homework, reading, sporting achievements, and attendance... though there is no limit to what we celebrate!

We hope you can let us know if you have any further ideas to develop our school even more.