ISSUE 1 . SEPT 2022 . QUANTOCK EDUCATION TRUST



# BUILDING CHARACTER, SHAPING FUTURES

### **REFLECTIONS**

Welcome to our first edition of **Building Character, Shaping Futures**. The newsletter
will act as a vehicle to communicate, develop
and recognise our Character and Values
provision within the Quantock Education Trust.

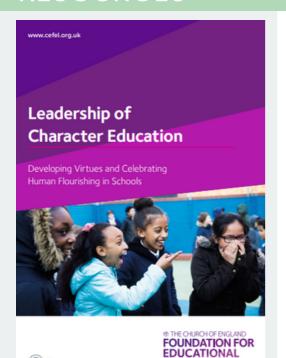
Each September represents a new start. Any successful start is often accompanied by a time of reflection. September 2022 has brought more reflection then any of us may have anticipated.



Queen Elizabeth II personified good character. The recent reflections on her life have brought forward examples of her sense of duty and dedication to serve. In a world where our young people are so readily available to influences; recognising good role models is a skill to be nurtured. Alongside the updates and CPD resources this edition will focus on Character Role Models.

### **RESOURCES**

UNITED TO THE CONTROL



At the 2019 QET's Character Conference Andy Wolfe introduced us to 'Developing Virtues and Celebrating Human Flourishing in Schools'. A powerful resource which includes:

- a clear definition for character ed.
- theological reflection on the Christian inspiration for the leadership of character education.
- provision of a suite of practical resources to empower schools using the Church of England's Vision for Education, Deeply Christian Serving the Common Good to inform and underpin their approach.

It is available to download at www.cefel.org.uk/character/.

### **CURIOUSITY COLUMN**

Each issue will highlight a strategy within

The Character Teaching Inventory,
created by The Jubilee
Centre. It will

Created by The Jubilee
Centre. It will
aid us to recognise and
develop our character
provision.

'Character Taught'

Moral dilemmas, encouraging pupils to discuss and reflect on situations requiring an ethical response.



#### The Importance of Role Models in Your Child's Life -The Parent Hood

Why not have a listen to this podcast episode? A conversation with author and entrepreneur Jo Wimble-Groves about the positive impact role models can have on our children's lives.

It serves as a reminder of all the potential role models our students come into contact with and how we too are valued role models in the lives of the young people we work with.





## LOOKING FORWARD...

Updated QET Character and Values Policy

QET INSET 31st October 2022

QET INSET 20th February 2023

### **UPDATES**

Follow our new Twitten account:



@QETCharacter

### INTRODUCING OUR NEW CHARACTER LOGO



## How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heros and she-roes!

-- Maya Angelou --



### CHARACTER ROLE MODELS

For the launch of our QET Building Character, Shaping Futures newsletter Chrysta Garnett has shared her thoughts on one of her character role models.

"In the summer of 2022, as well as finding myself reflecting on my first term as CEO of the Quantock Education Trust, I also enjoyed watching the Lionesses romp to victory in the Euros.

Their journey as a team, and the critical role in that success played by Sarina Wiegman, resonated with me on many levels. Firstly as a woman, and a mother of a daughter, seeing other women finally being taken seriously and celebrated in a sport that has been traditionally male dominated, left me on many occasions profoundly moved. Secondly, I was intrigued



by the enigmatic, quietly confident, and supremely composed leader on the side lines.

My pledge to myself at the end of summer once the tears had dried and the Euros had finally 'come home' was to 'be more Wiegman'. Why? Because for me she perfectly exemplifies many of the character traits that QET aims to instil in our young people and embed within the culture of our schools:

- Her ability to be motivated, and motivate others, by focusing on long term goals, so that the team can see the link between effort in the present and pay-off in the longer term, in her words, 'We stick to our strategy and our plan, we stay grounded'
- A quiet, inner confidence one that that is based on an acceptance that there is always further learning to be experienced, even in victory - and that honest critical reflection is key
- An appreciation of the importance of listening attentively to others, behaving with courtesy and humility in public and in private – modelling the behaviours that she wanted to see in her team
- Her focus on developing a powerful team culture where people feel a clear sense of their own selves whilst knowing their fundamental place within their community and taking a collective responsibility for each other
- Being compassionate and reflective and creating a place of psychological safety, as Sarina said, a place 'where you will not be judged' – and where her players had the confidence to make mistakes

So whilst you might not see me wearing a pony-tail or a tracksuit anytime soon, I am going to try to maintain my 'inner Wiegman' as this academic year progresses, and channel some of that Dutch resolve towards this year's QET priorities. As the great woman herself pledged, just prior to making her start with England team, the aim is to 'Work hard, put quality into everything and deliver."

