



BUILDING CHARACTER, SHAPING FUTURES

OUR COMMUNITY

Welcome to the second edition of **Building Character, Shaping Futures**. This edition will start by showing gratitude to all the staff within our QET community who went through their SIAMS inspections this term. Thank you for your commitment and dedication, and congratulations on excellent judgements.

Secondly, thank you to all staff and students who celebrated *World Kindness Day* this term. The respect and creativity in the acts of kindness that students displayed were fantastic.

As Christmas approaches and another year comes to an end, among the long to-do lists, try to find time to come together in your communities – schools, departments, group of colleagues or friends and celebrate one another for all you have achieved.



CURIOSITY COLUMN

The Character Teaching Inventory

created by The Jubilee Centre.

Consider:

'Character Caught'

All Staff

Recognise their role as moral exemplars, consistently setting a positive example through their own character



THE
JUBILEE CENTRE
FOR CHARACTER & VIRTUES

OUR CHARACTER EDUCATION POLICY



Community • Aspiration • Respect • Equity

QET's Character Education Policy was formed in December 2020 and has been through its most recent review by QET SLT. The policy applies to all employees and gives details of the commitment we are making to Character Education. In this edition I would like to draw attention to some of our guiding Principles:

- Character education is not a 'bolt on' element of the curriculum – it should be integral and recognised as being part of the 'DNA' of the school.
- The design of programmes and activities should be planned consciously and deliberately, with the assumption that character; can be 'taught, caught and sought'.
- There should be a common language relating to character development.
- It should be evident in every lesson and used to 'frame' pupil activities and foster independent thought, confidence and learning resilience.
- It should be developed 'with' the staff and not 'done to'.
- All adults must act as role models.

Leading Character Education in Schools (CPD)

*The Leading Character Education in Schools **free online CPD** programme aims to answer some of the big questions schools have in teaching character in a school setting.*

The CPD provides a comprehensive overview of both the theory and practice of the leadership of character education within primary and secondary school settings.

www.jubileecentre.ac.uk

LOOKING FORWARD...

QET INSET

20th February 2023

RECOGNITION

The launch of QET's C.A.R.E. Awards

TWITTER

Follow our new Twitter account:

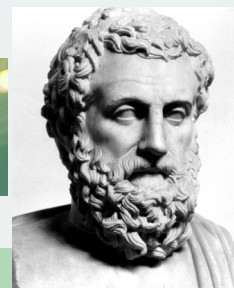


[@QETCharacter](https://twitter.com/QETCharacter)



Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.

-- Aristotle --



THE JUBILEE CENTRE

In this edition I would like to take the opportunity to share with you where lots of my inspiration, research and resources for Character Education come from. In the *Curiosity Column* you will notice that both my CPD suggestions are from The [University of Birmingham's Jubilee Centre](https://www.jubilee-centre.org/). Using information from their website, I'd like to explain a bit about the centre and how it can be useful to you.

What is the Jubilee Centre?

Founded in 2012, the Centre was established by Professor Arthur James OBE with Dr Jack Templeton. The Centre is a 'pioneering interdisciplinary research centre focusing on character, virtues and values in the interest of human flourishing.' They issue a wide range of research, publications and resources.

Who is Professor Arthur James OBE?

'Professor James Arthur is Director of the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues. James was Head of the School of Education 2010-2015 and Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor 2015-2019. He was previously Editor of the British Journal of Educational Studies for ten years and holds numerous honorary titles and Fellowships. He has written widely on the relationship between theory and practice in education, particularly the links between character, virtues, citizenship, religion and education.' He states, 'The Centre undertakes vital work intended to inspire the next generation and contribute to a renewal of values and virtues across as part of a flourishing society.'

How could The Jubilee Centre be useful to you?

All four of our QET schools are continually growing and developing their Character Education practices in response to their context. If, as a member of staff, you are looking for a reputable source of information regarding character and values The Jubilee Centre has a huge, growing catalog of resources to choose from. These include:

- Day-to-day resources e.g. lesson plans and assemblies.
- Pre-created character projects for students, such as, 'Having a Dream', 'Saving for the Future' or 'Thinking Creativity'.
- Free CPD programmes and links to *Conversations on Character* podcast.
- Footage from past conferences, shared research papers and projects such as 'Character Through Youth Social Action', 'Cultivating Cyber-Phronesis' and 'Virtues in Professions'.

Their site also spotlights and celebrates *Ambassadors of Character*, individuals awarded for their work with character. Knowing them could enable you to follow their career, network and learn from their journeys.

I would love hear about your research and engagement with this platform, please do get in touch to share what you have found useful.

Sarah Joseph - QET Character & Values Collaborative Lead

A note from Chrysta

Thank you to those completed the evaluation form after the QET Inset Day. Your feedback was very valuable and will inform future planning of events. It was great to see the CARE values running through the long answers. Colleagues wanted to further develop their **community** through collaboration and relationship building between our schools. **Aspiration** to improve on current practice and seek new opportunities for development was a repeated key theme in responses. The **respect** for our guest speaker's expertise and colleagues' opinions and experience was wonderful to read. There was also a real desire to achieve **equity** of education provision to all of our students and suggestions of future Inset Day focuses to help achieve this. A summary of the feedback is on the next page.

2022 QET INSET DAY

Getting better - together



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY:

"It was nice to work with colleagues from other schools - nice to get a different perspective on things."

"I really enjoyed Kate Jones session, I found the experience extremely motivating, personally and professionally. I was enthused by her clear passion and really respected what she had to say and how she delivered her findings and advice."

"Developing relationships with colleagues in other schools across the Trust."

"Getting the opportunities to discuss with colleagues, both from equivalent departments and cross-phase was valuable."

"Reassurance that some of the techniques we have been embedding follow the theory and are effective."

"I really valued the professional development part of the day - I thought that was so powerful."

EVEN BETTER IF...

"It was great to meet the others! I would like opportunities to do that more."

"I would like to experiment more with the coaching model and think this will grow with time, practice and confidence."

"Provide more opportunities to build professional relationships so we can learn from one another."

97%

of colleagues felt that the day has helped them better understand the evidence base on learning and memory in some way.

93%

of colleagues felt the training experienced on the day could have a positive impact on improving their practice.

100%

of colleagues enjoyed the opportunity to engage with other colleagues from the QET.