



Cultural Capital At Lake Haven School

What is Cultural Capital?

Cultural capital is the accumulation of knowledge, behaviours, and skills that a child can draw upon and which demonstrates their cultural awareness, knowledge and competence; it is one of the key ingredients a child will draw upon to be successful in society, their career and the world of work.

Cultural capital promotes social mobility and success.

Cultural capital gives a child power. It helps them achieve goals, become successful, and rise up the social ladder without necessarily having wealth or financial capital.

Cultural capital is having assets that give children the desire to aspire and achieve social mobility whatever their starting point.

Policy Rationale

At Lake Haven School, we recognise that for children to aspire and be successful academically and in the wider areas of their lives, they need to be given rich and sustained opportunities to develop their cultural capital. We

also note how important this is due to the reasons that the children have ended up at Lake Haven. Our environment where Lake Haven can be found forms a wealth of opportunities for each of our learners, with the farm, allotment, forestry, fishery and many vocational career opportunities. However, we are also aware that we need to ensure that our learners have as much and equal opportunities as any child placed in a different setting.

Many of our learners would have gaps in their education due to unmet needs or through barriers met at a mainstream school due to differences. At Lake Haven, we aim to give our children the tools to fall back in love with learning again and equip them with the skills of regulation to allow them to enjoy life to the fullest and grasp every opportunity that is presented to them.

Lake Haven recognises that there are six key areas of development that are interrelated and cumulatively contribute to the sum of a child's cultural capital:

1. Personal Development
2. Social Development, including political and current affairs awareness
3. Physical Development
4. Spiritual Development
5. Moral Development
6. Cultural development

Summary of the key areas of coverage for each area of Cultural Capital Development:

Personal development

1. Citizenship, Personal, Social and Health Education provision;
2. The school's wider pastoral framework; Embrace Life Sessions,
3. Work to develop confidence e.g. role play, supporting peers;

4. Activities focused on building self-esteem;
5. Mental Health & well-being provision.
6. The farm husbandry and care for all of our animals.

Social Development

1. Personal, Social and Health Education provision;
2. Raising the awareness of environmental issues around our school and surrounding fisheries.
3. Pupil Voice – regular feedback in tutor time sessions
4. Child and Family Support Worker support;
5. Pastoral support from all staff
6. Careers Policy from Year 7 onwards

Physical Development

1. The Physical Education curriculum;
2. Weekly cooking sessions to enable a wider diet
3. Anti-bullying and safeguarding policies and strategies, including the child-friendly policy
4. The Health Education dimension of the PSHE programme, including strands on drugs, smoking and alcohol;
5. A fully qualified sports lead delivering our PE curriculum
6. Weekly Forest School
7. Daily farming husbandry
8. Termly swimming
9. Termly Equine Studies
10. Design and Technology units related to food preparation and nutrition;

Spiritual Development

1. The Religious Education Curriculum;

2. Our collective acts of reflection;
3. Support for the expression of individual faiths;
4. Inter-faith and faith-specific activities and speakers;
5. Visits to religious buildings and centres;
6. Everyone's Welcome weekly Assembly Themes
7. Yoga and calm times at the end of the day

Moral Development

1. The Religious Education Curriculum;
2. The school's Behaviour policy;
3. Knowledge of the environment issues around our school and surrounding fisheries.
4. Everyone's Welcome weekly Assembly Themes
5. Allotment - planting for the bees and pollinator
6. Allotment - planting for sustainability
7. Tutor time discussions and pupil voice
8. Environmental week

Cultural Development

1. Citizenship education through PSHE;
2. Arts education including Music (peripatetic Teacher)
3. Promotion of racial equality and community cohesion through the Everyone's Welcome Assembly Themes - weekly
4. Assembly each week - weekly
5. Tutor/Class discussion time - weekly
6. Farm husbandry and care for all of animals
7. Forest School
8. Sports Lead
9. Equine Therapy

10. Swimming
11. Careers Plan from Year 7 onwards & close links with Career Seekers
Direct to hear what opportunities are available
12. Entrepreneurial skills from selling our eggs and feeds through the local cafe
13. Tutors specialised in subjects due to bespoke curriculum
14. Bespoke curriculum and consideration to exams to support interests

Each curriculum area makes its own contribution to children's cultural capital development and supports SMSC across the school. Please see individual curriculum overviews for details.

Reviewed: July 2025