



What does Cultural Capital Mean at Kirk Langley Church of England Primary School?

Every child and family who joins our small rural school, with an extended family culture, will have their own knowledge and experiences that will link to their own culture and wider family. This might include: languages, beliefs, traditions, cultural and family heritage, interests, travel and work.

Research shows that when children and families' cultures are valued, both the child's experience of learning and progress can benefit (Husain et al., 2018, p. 4 and Gazzard, E. 2018 in Chalmers, H. and Crisfield, E. 2019)

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 pupil will draw upon to be successful in society, their career and the world of work.

Cultural capital gives relevance. It helps children achieve goals, become successful, and achieve the next steps in their life's journey with confidence and resilience. Cultural capital is having assets that give children the desire to aspire and achieve social mobility whatever their starting point.

Ofsted define cultural capital as...

"As part of making the judgement about the quality of education, inspectors will consider the extent to which schools are equipping pupils with the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life.

Our understanding of 'knowledge and cultural capital' is derived from the following wording in the national curriculum: 'It is the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.' "

At our school, children benefit from an ambitious curriculum that builds on what they understand and know already. They also benefit from the wealth of knowledge and experience they gain from the church and our surrounding communities. We believe that exposure, not only to culture but also to situations in which the children might not have previous experiences of, is of paramount importance to their ongoing successes. Enrichment is a key part of immersing children in experiences that will help to build their interests and offer them the opportunity to 'live' the learning. Developing enquiry skills through Forest School or understanding empathy by being 'evacuated' to North East Yorkshire as a Upper Key Stage residential will enhance their understanding and connectedness. Participating in a wide range of sports competitions with other Primary schools in Derby and Derbyshire will help to build social interaction, tolerance and respect for others and themselves. As a rural school our Collective Worship and regular news updates via the BBC Newsround helps topical conversation, awareness and wider issues to be discussed and understand.

Gradually widening children's experiences as they progress through school is an important step in providing rich and engaging learning across the curriculum. We plan carefully for children to have progressively 'richer' experiences.

Building Experiences and Knowledge by Immersing Children in the World Around Them.