

EDUCATION THAT BUILDS CHARACTER

AYLESFORD SCHOOL

COURAGE CONFIDENCE CHARACTER



Miss T Kelvie
Headteacher

We believe that if you can develop good character strengths you will be successful at whatever you try.

At Aylesford School we have a firm belief that every student regardless of background or ability can achieve whatever they want with hard work and determination.

We will work with you and your child to develop strong character strengths, reach their academic potential and discover where they excel.

Aylesford School is inclusive. We treat all children equally and have the highest expectations of ourselves and of each other. We have a moral purpose and a deep commitment to comprehensive education.

We are passionate about ensuring that you reach your potential at our school.



Character Education

At Aylesford School we aim to help young people develop good character, reach their academic potential and discover where they excel.

Central to our ethos are the school's ten character strengths. These have been chosen by students, parents, staff and governors. They represent the core values that we are committed to developing at our school.

COURAGE

Students at Aylesford are encouraged to take risks in trying new skills and activities and challenge themselves in their learning.

CONFIDENCE

To believe in yourself and be the best person you can be.

CHARACTER

To make good choices and be able to empathise with others.

To seek to do the right thing and show self discipline when needed.



Schools of
CHARACTER

Aylesford School was one of the first schools nationally to be awarded the prestigious Character Kitemark Plus award. The award recognises the schools enhanced, continued commitment to developing character education and the character of our students, and continues to be a pioneer in this area.



RESPECT

Students at Aylesford have respect for themselves, each other, the school community and the wider community.



**Pupils are
happy and
enjoy coming
to school**



CONFIDENCE

Students have the opportunity to develop confidence, courage and compassion through dance and drama lessons.

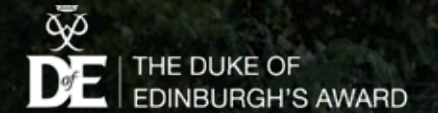
Our experience is that this helps students to thrive in other areas of the curriculum.



BUILDING CONFIDENCE

At Aylesford we give our students opportunities to develop courage and confidence. If young people can experience pride in trying something new, or in performing in front of an audience, they learn that by applying courage and confidence they can succeed in areas they did not imagine.

SPORT
DANCE
DRAMA
CAMPING
CLIMBING
SUPPORTING PRIMARY SCHOOLS
MUSIC
TRIPS
REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL
LEADERSHIP



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award pushes students beyond their comfort zones. It challenges them to use resilience, confidence, self-discipline and courage. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award has become one of our most popular and rewarding experiences.

Visit **dofe.org** for more details.



RESILIENCE

In order to nurture and inspire the development of resilient, well rounded individuals we work hard to offer a first class range of experiences and opportunities that build character, expertise, maturity and core life skills.

We encourage our students to reach beyond their comfort zones, to break through personal limitations and to experience the new and unknown.

Outside the classroom this is encouraged through a range of trip, visits, and experiences.

CREATIVITY

Creativity is valued at Aylesford School. As part of our balanced curriculum music, art and drama are offered in all Key Stages providing students with opportunities to express creativity, develop presentation skills and confidence with audiences.



MOTIVATION

Our vision is to provide high quality academic and 'Character Education' which develops confident young people who are successful learners and contribute positively to society.



SPORTS

We believe that engagement in sport can broaden the horizons of young people and develop skills that are vital to their futures. As well as ensuring fitness and health is held in high regard, we develop coaching, problem solving and communication skills that reach beyond the discipline studied.

All are encouraged to participate in all sports regardless of gender. We strongly believe this should not place a limit on participation and engagement and have celebrated strong success with our girls and boys football and rugby teams.





COURAGE

We work in partnership with parents to help our students develop the courage to persevere at tasks even when they are tough.

Students are guided to grow their confidence, to have a voice, to know what is right, and to build compassion and integrity.



**CHILDREN SPEND A
LARGE PROPORTION
OF THEIR LIVES AT
SCHOOL.**

**IT IS IMPORTANT TO
US THAT AYLESFORD
STUDENTS ARE HAPPY
AND ENJOY THEIR
SCHOOL EXPERIENCE.**



INTEGRITY

At Aylesford School we believe that we should do more than just teach students how to pass exams.

We believe we should provide them with the opportunity, and indeed the expectation, that they develop strong character strengths.

OPEN-MINDEDNESS

At Aylesford we are open-minded and compassionate. Our students are encouraged to explore different cultures and views.



Students at the Buddhapadipa
Buddhist Temple in Wimbledon, London.



OPPORTUNITY

At Aylesford School careers guidance and work shadowing programmes are introduced from Year 7, giving students a real insight in to the world of employment and business.

Our successful Sixth Form is open to all and offers a range of a pathways including the International Baccalaureate, BTEC career related qualifications and our Pre-Apprenticeship pathway.

Our Sixth Form has been recognised by Ofsted who graded us as a 'Good' Sixth Form supported by a year-on-year increase in numbers going on to University (over 55% of our 6th Form 2021) and by the high quality apprenticeships that are being secured.



Recognising & Rewarding

We recognise and reward students who demonstrate our Character Strengths in school.

Students who also make good academic progress and are on track to achieve challenging target grades, have the opportunity to graduate at the end of each year.

Running totals for each of our Character Strengths are kept up-to-date on our website for all to see at **aylesford.kent.sch.uk**





CURIOSITY

We are very proud of our students and our school, and look forward to welcoming you to visit us, see what we do and ask any questions you may have.

Book a personalised guided tour at anytime by contacting info@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Guidance & Support

We will give you the support you need so that you settle into Year 7 quickly and start to thrive.

Our dedicated Year 7 team will support and challenge you to get involved with the life of the school.



Miss C Duff
Assistant Headteacher
SENCO & Year 6/7 Transition

Miss Duff is our SENCO supporting students with additional educational needs and is also responsible for ensuring the transition from Primary School to Secondary school runs smoothly.

Miss Duff organises numerous opportunities for your family and children to familiarise themselves with Aylesford School and get to know our staff before they start Year 7.



Mr T Green
Year 7 Progress Leader

Mr Green is the Year 7 progress leader and is responsible for the progress and well-being of all year 7 pupils. Mr Green enjoys working with Miss Duff and year 6-7 students to ensure transition from primary to secondary school is successful and enjoyable for every student.

Mr Green encourages all students to show resilience, confidence and integrity in and out of school, so that excellent character becomes a way of life.



Mrs N Severn
Year 7 Deputy Progress Leader

Mrs Severn is an expert at working with year 7 students and has done so for many years at Aylesford School. She will help Year 7 students get used to being in a new school and keep you on track.

Mrs Severn believes that resilience and motivation will be the most valuable character strengths to develop in year 7.



Mr D Wright
Assistant Headteacher
Leader of Character Education

Mr Wright has been working at Aylesford for over 12 years, he started as a PE teacher in 2005 and has been an Assistant Head Teacher since 2011. He is responsible for Character Development within the school.

Mr Wright will be pivotal in developing courage, confidence and character in each student and always seeks to find opportunities to reward students for showing good character, attendance and behaviour.



**WHATEVER YOUR
ASPIRATION,
YOU CAN ACHIEVE
AT AYLESFORD
SCHOOL.**

AYLESFORD SCHOOL

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 **AylesfordSchoolKent**



Schools of
CHARACTER



Aylesford School is working with the Character Education Trust, a Trust of schools that focus on helping students develop strong character strengths, reach their academic potential and discover where they excel.

The academies in the trust are aligned by a commitment to: prioritising academic excellence, high expectations and the development of character; being inclusive; developing the highest quality of teaching and learning; providing valuable progression routes that will give young people choices in adult life and allow them to be well qualified to achieve success and well-being.

Matthew Wright
Executive Headteacher & Trust Leader

www.charactereducationtrust.org