Silver Success at Stockland Green School

Article by Mrs R Hill





Stockland Green School is proud to announce that it is now a 'Rights Aware' school, having secured the Silver Award on the 22nd May. Rights are central to our school as one student told the UNICEF assessor: "Rights underpin everything that we do here, the school is so passionate about them!"

We believe that our students deserve the very best: our students will leave us as young people who are ready to join their community, the world of work and their futures as compassionate, well-rounded individuals who are prepared for success. The UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools award helps to achieve this by ensuring that schools embed a culture of actively thinking about the world around us.

WE BELIEVE IN OUR STUDENTS

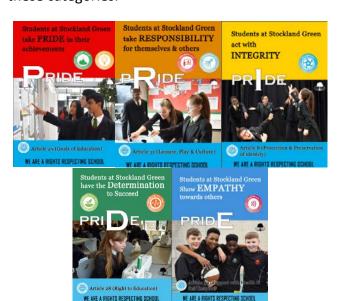
In order to become a Rights Respecting School, Stockland Green has demonstrated a commitment to ensuring that our students know about their rights. All students are used to the language of being 'rights holders' and know that their rights are inalienable and unconditional. All young people deserve to have all of the rights enshrined in the UNCRC. To make sure our students are well-versed about their rights all classrooms are equipped with enough copies of the UNCRC that all students can use this and make links to their learning. Every student has a

Knowledge Organiser which also has a page dedicated to Rights Respecting Schools. Our students are articulate about their rights and are growing in confidence about speaking about rights. Our staff are keen to show students how their learning links to rights and to think about the rights of others around the world.

"Rights underpin everything that we do here, the school is so passionate about them!" – Year 7 student.

PRIDE AWARDS AT STOCKLAND GREEN

We now begin our journey towards becoming a Gold Rights Respecting School and we know that it is not enough that our students simply know their rights. Our students are naturally curious and compassionate and our PRIDE Awards in July 2019 will celebrate those who are proud of themselves, responsible for themselves and others, show integrity in their actions, are determined to succeed and have empathy for Through our character education programme taught in form tie, we encourage students to develop a character that is outward facing, aware of their community, mature and thoughtful. We anticipate that it will be difficult to choose between our wonderful students for these categories.



ADVOCATING FOR RIGHTS

Back in February our students met MP Jack Dromey to express their disappointment that not all young people can expect to be safeguarded against government militarisation of young people as in Article 38 (War and armed conflict) Students felt passionately that this was not good enough and spoke with the MP for Erdington about what could be done about this. As rights holders, our students know that they also need to think about others who do not always have their rights upheld.



The next phase of our journey as we move towards the gold award will be equipping our students to advocate for the rights of others. Ms Vernon took a group of students to London to take part in the national finals for 2019 on Friday 24th May. These students have excelled themselves in the art of negotiation, persuasive and rhetoric and will no doubt use the talents in support of the rights of others.



Similarly, two Year 9 girls have become ambassadors for the charity 'Send My Friend to School' and are partaking in the national training, also in London, to become advocates back at Stockland Green to lead their peers in support the rights of young people who do not get to go to school. All of our students have the fundamental right Article 28 (Right to Education) and ultimately we believe that the Article 29 (Goals of Education) is to make sure our students have all the skills necessary to use their education for the good of themselves and the good of others.

For this reason we worked with Bag2Schools recently and thanks to the generosity of students, parents and staff were able to raise £77.00 to support the charity WaterAid. We are now working with Clarks Shoe Share to raise money by asking students to bring in unused and unwanted (though still wearable) shoes from home by the 7th June.

SHOESHARE



WE NEED YOU!

To ensure Stockland Green School can move forwards towards Gold - we need you! We need to form a parent steering group to think about how we develop as a Rights Respecting School. Our gratitiude to those who have already come forward, but if you were thinking about it already – we would love to hear from you!

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