North Herts

Education Support Centre

Cultural Capital at North Herts ESC

Cultural capital refers to the accumulation of knowledge, behaviours and skills that students can draw upon to demonstrate cultural awareness, understanding and competence.

At **North Herts ESC**, we are committed to raising aspirations and nurturing ambition. Our staff provide a wide range of meaningful experiences designed to support students in achieving their goals and preparing successfully for adulthood. We recognise that students need rich, sustained opportunities to develop their cultural capital. This is achieved through a broad and balanced curriculum, alongside extracurricular activities, educational visits and enrichment opportunities.

We identify six interrelated areas that contribute to the development of a student's cultural capital:

- Personal
- Social
- Physical
- Spiritual
- Moral
- Cultural

These areas collectively underpin students' holistic development. NHESC recognises the importance of ensuring our students are supported to be the very best they can be within an ever-changing, diverse and dynamic society — one that promotes equality of opportunity and enables all individuals to live, learn and achieve.

Ofsted Guidance

As outlined by Ofsted:

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

Our understanding of knowledge and cultural capital is informed by the wording of the National Curriculum, which describes it as the essential knowledge pupils need to be educated citizens. It introduces them to "the best that has been thought and said" and f**osters an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.**

Ofsted has since clarified that inspectors are not assessing cultural capital as a standalone measure; rather, they evaluate whether a school provides a rich and broad curriculum. **A well-designed, ambitious curriculum is the foundation upon which cultural capital is built.**

SIX INTERRELATED AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT	
Personal Development	CEIAG activities / Services for Young People / Meaningful Work Experience opportunities / 16 before 16 / 14 before 14 / Mental Health Support / 1:1 Mentoring / GRIT: Growing resilience in Teenagers / Fundraising / Get Work Ready Days / Finance workshops / Princes Trust Awards / Public Speaking / Mock Interviews / Taking part in national competitions / PHSCE Curriculum / British Values and Citizenship /Centre Values / Horticulture lessons and outdoor learning / Assemblies
Social Development	Student Voice / School council / Ethics / Fundraising for local charities / RSE and Healthy Relationship Curriculum / Ability to resolve conflict through restorative and reflective working / Sports Leaders
Physical Development	PE and wellbeing lessons / Princes Trust /Anti-bullying / Safeguarding / Fundraising sponsored cycle rides / Enrichment activities / extra-curricular options / Work experience / Activity based Trips and visits / PHSCE Curriculum / Visits from agencies to cover drug abuse, alcohol, smoking and sexual health
Spiritual Development	Ethics / RE curriculum / Visits to the Centre from external visitors and agencies / Assemblies / PHSCE curriculum / Visits / Festivals and beliefs
Moral Development	Behaviour Management Policy / Ethics curriculum / Assemblies / Visitors to the Centre including the Police / PHSCE curriculum / Fundraising for local charities / Tutor Time / Food distribution to local families / Centre Values / Respecting civil and criminal law and consequences / Accountability for their own behaviours
Cultural Development	Ethics /PHSCE /British Values /16 before 16 /Trips and Visits/ Chinese New Year Cookery/ Black History / Shoreditch cultural food visit / Access to trips and cultures through visits and trips Britain's Parliamentary system /Centre Values