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THE
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UNIVERSITY OF
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ITY TEACHING HONESTY RESPECT RESILIENCE CURRIC
E CHARACTER 
RIT THROUGH SUBJECTS MOTIVATION FOCUS OPTIM

ENGLISH

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Teaching Character Through Subjects – English Suite 1 Key Information

Teacher	Lucy McCance	School	South Dartmoor Academy
Overview			
Curriculum Area	English		
Subject Focus	The topic is using a focus on aspects of character to improve speaking and listening skills and performance.		
Identified Key Character Qualities	Civic – Community Spirit Performance – Perseverance Moral - Respect and Dignity		
Character Focus	<p>The approach that I have taken firstly raises awareness of these qualities for the students, and asks them to consider how well they possess and demonstrate them. It then asks them to notice them in others, and identify how they are useful and improve performance, making the character qualities aspirational.</p> <p>The students then had the opportunity to use them in a similar situation to the demonstration, and assess others using them in that situation as well. The students then reflected upon how well they had used them, and the impact upon their performance.</p> <p>The set of lesson plans is based on the idea of an action research cycle where they begin a cycle and complete it by the end of the 5th lesson.</p>		
Differentiation	Worksheets are differentiated, jigsaws can be differentiated, and groupings are considered.		
Adaptability	It's very adaptable. It is written to be able to be applied to any topic for debate. I used it to discuss aspects of Lord of the Flies so that it didn't interfere with the Literature study that we were doing at the time, but I hadn't written it planning to do that.		
Affect on School Priorities	I think it would be very difficult to claim effect on any of these things after just 5 lessons. The students were able to discuss issues respectfully and sustain discussions for 20 minutes by focusing on the character qualities. It is logical to assume that this would become habit if repeated enough.		
Things That Worked Well	The explicit links between the focus on character qualities and improvement in performance at speaking and listening made it very motivating for the students.		
Lessons			
Subject Focus	Lesson One: To develop understanding of useful virtues for speaking and listening tasks.		

	<p>Lesson Two: To develop understanding of how to reach consensus using respect and dignity.</p> <p>Lesson Three: To develop understanding of working together to sustain discussion using persistence and community mindedness.</p> <p>Lesson Four: To develop understanding of ways of structuring and sustaining debate to reach consensus using persistence and civic virtues.</p> <p>Lesson Five: To develop the ability to apply and reflect upon the virtues to support debate.</p>
Character Focus	<p>Lesson One: Increase awareness of persistence, dignity, respect and community mindedness.</p> <p>Lesson Two: Respect and dignity</p> <p>Lesson Three: Persistence and community mindedness</p> <p>Lesson Four: Persistence and community mindedness</p> <p>Lesson Five: Respect, dignity, persistence and community mindedness</p>