



Yeadon Junior School

# Special Agent of Change

A Reflective Practical Journal  
for Young Leaders of Change



PRIDE  
DIGNITY  
RESPECT  
CURIOSITY  
RESILIENCE  
REFLECTION  
TEAMWORK  
COMPASSION  
VOLUNTEERING  
DETERMINATION

SOCIAL  
ACTION





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# A reflective practical journal for Young Leaders of Change

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## *Congratulations*

### **You have been selected to be a Special Agent of Change**

In order to have attained the status of 'Special Agent' the following must have occurred;

- Your application was impressive
- A number of staff had recognised and affirmed your skills and talents as a young leader
- You had clearly shown that you were capable of being one who could drive positive Social Action within our school. You therefore will be an excellent role model to other children
- Through a range of activities you have been able to demonstrate your knowledge and skills in leading others



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## **The Interview**

After the application process you were shortlisted and called for an interview with the Character Team.

At your interview you showed mastery of communication as well as exceptional skills and a great deal of practical wisdom. It is clear you know how to take Social Action and have considerable interest in it.

Some of those being interviewed are already taking action with their families outside of school. Many are already supporting those leading change within school. It is really exciting that you will now be joining this group of impressive young leaders.

Soon you will be taking part in an induction programme to develop your skills further. This will include participating in some external workshops. These workshops are specially designed to enhance your skills in Public Speaking. Obviously, as a young leader you will need to be able to put forward your views confidently. This may involve speaking in an assembly or making a presentation within school, sitting on a young people's advisory board and even leading a project with peers alongside a charitable or national organisation.

As a Special Agent of Change you will work alongside an extraordinary group of young leaders who passionately inspire, motivate others and reflect on a range of actions that we are currently exploring. Together with them, you will be able to make decisions on current projects relating to those within the classroom, the school and the wider local community. You may even come across National and Global Social Action activities.

Be ready to be inspired by a wide range of other like-minded individuals including those special visitors who may be invited to speak with you. These role models may have already engaged in exciting sustained Social Action.



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## Example: Advertisement of Special Agent of Change Role



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### Special Agents of Change Vacancies

#### Year 5/Year 6

A Special Agent of Change has the responsibility of representing the whole school with dignity and follow our Character Virtues in everyday life to make a positive change within and outside of school.

**Do you want to be a Special Agent of Change?**

**Do you want to lead the way?**

As a Special Agent, you will treat everyone with respect and show great compassion towards others at all times.

You will also be involved in exciting projects, where teamwork is vital.

If you would like to apply for the above positions

please write a letter of application stating why you would be suitable for the role to **the Headteacher and send it via email to**

***[juniorcharacterleaders@yeadingjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:juniorcharacterleaders@yeadingjuniorschool.co.uk) or alternatively***

***you can hand in your application to the***

***Communication and Publicity Manager.***

**Deadline: End of September.**





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## Character Virtues

Through your role you will be engaged in a deeper exploration of the Character Virtues which in turn will encourage you in your understanding of how to promote positive attitudes, responsibility and reflection amongst others.

**Please don't put a lid on the virtues**



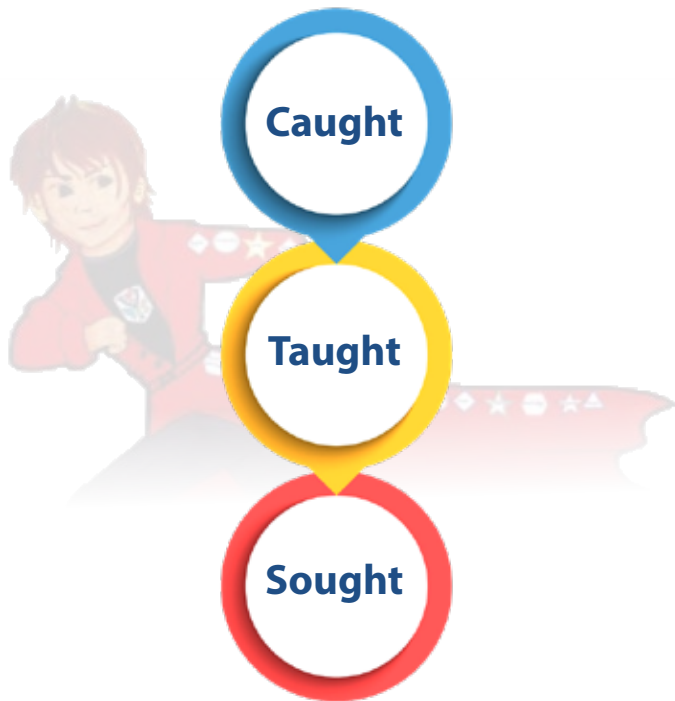
**They are everywhere!**



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## **Virtues are ever present at home, school and beyond the school gate.**

Good and wise choices are ours to make. Others are impacted by the decisions we make.



### **Character Caught**

You have been observing virtues in action for a long time both in the classroom and throughout the school. Our excellent role models in school have provided you with the opportunity to learn more from their attitudes, behaviour and interactions with others.



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## **Character Taught**

By now it has become very clear to you that the Virtues are with you at all times, whether at home, school or beyond school. They are interconnected and form the building blocks for all the character learning that we take part in. There are many more virtues beyond the ones that we have chosen together.

In school virtues are introduced to you and taught through projects and topics, often through story. You have learned about virtues in your lessons, assemblies and in other activities.

## **Character Sought**

Now that you have become a Special Agent of Change you will be able to support the school in seeking opportunities to demonstrate how virtues make a difference to us as well as others. They aid us in making good and wise choices. Virtues in action enable us to understand their impact on us as well as others. There is a double effect.





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## Virtual Backpack

Each day you are reminded about your virtual back pack of virtues that you carry with you at all times.

**Remember you always carry them with you!**





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## Meaningful Social Action

We all know that to undertake meaningful Social Action you have to clearly understand what it means to make a positive difference to others. You have already started to identify what it is to be a 'good' citizen. This has been demonstrated through using the Character Virtues that have been embedded in your learning. These are what we call the building blocks to our character development both in and outside of school. You have taken each one of these virtues in turn and seen how they work together to help us become who we are.

You have shown these in abundance so now you are ready to lead the action.

- Resilience
- Determination
- Dignity
- Compassion
- Respect
- Volunteering
- Pride
- Teamwork
- Curiosity
- Reflection





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## Things to remember

Remember the action we take needs to be relevant and needed. We must take time to celebrate, reflect on the outcome and its impact.

How will we plan our action?

Is there some practical action we can take?

Is there an issue to support?

How will we engage with others?

Have we consulted with the relevant school adults?

Have we consulted with the right people to see what they need and want?



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### **Finally .....**

Be reflective. Remember that you have all the tools and skills as well as the support from all of us to be a really effective Special Agent of Change. Now you are equipped to lead on practical action to positively support others and affect change.

### **What happens next?**

You take action!

It is important to be involved with others, remember teamwork!

Of course, it's one of our virtues.

### **What action will you be engaged in?**

All of our projects involve everyone, partners and external organisations. You and others will work with the Character Team to help select the most important and relevant projects. Some of these you know well as they occur every year.

Look forward to us shining a light on your Social Action as we reflect together on the character tools you have used.



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## Sustaining Action

*Succession planning is vital!*

You will need to ensure that projects are sustained by other agents when you move to secondary school.

### How will you do this?

- Host informative assemblies showcasing your projects
- Promote projects and activities within school
- Create posters and flyers for your peers
- Word of mouth

Be ready to inspire your peers to carry on the legacy of Social Action.

*How will you ensure sustainability?*



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*If we are to have any hope for  
the future, those who have  
lanterns must pass them  
on to others.*  
*Plato*



We are proud to continue to engage  
with the following projects:

**Intergenerational work to help prevent loneliness**

**Supporting the homeless**

**Engaging with charities**

**Food bank links**

**Fundraising for local charities**

**Community engagement**

**Environmental and sustainability partnerships**

With reference to 'The Jubilee Centre Framework for Character Education in Schools'

<http://www.jubileecentre.ac.uk/framework>



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