



My Character: My Life, Your Life, Our Future

Name:

My School:

My Teacher:

My Class:

Working Together

The My Character Resources have been developed by the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues at the University of Birmingham, alongside young people across the UK. This is one of a set of 10 eResources, each aiming to encourage young people to be more future minded and to think about who they are and who they want to become.

The other eResources in this series are

Having a Dream
Saving for the Future
Having Patience
Helping Others
Being Determined
Having Courage
Thinking Creatively
My Character – Review

Please go to www.mycharacter.co.uk to download them.



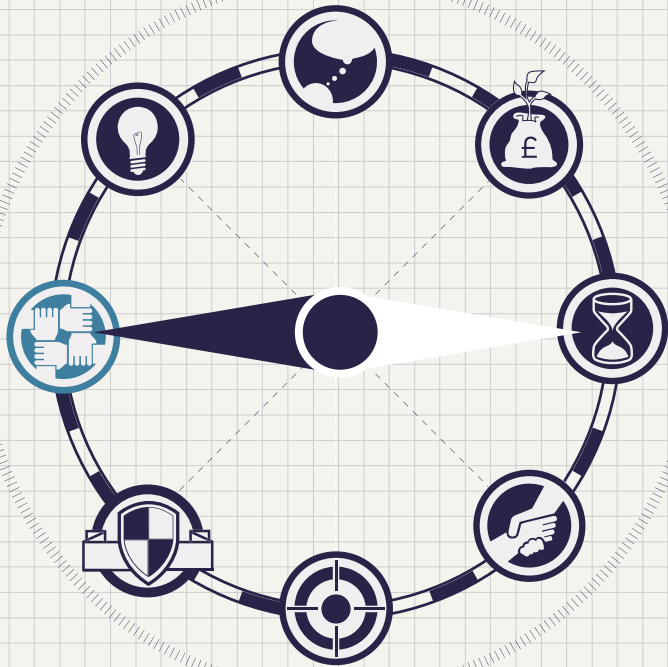
Working Together

The combined action of a group, especially when effective and efficient.

Great leaders are only great leaders because of the team around them. No one person is good at everything, and so working in a team allows you to make the most of people's different skills, strengths and abilities. You might be really good at coming up with fantastic ideas and starting to plan the project, but you may not be so good at presenting your idea and product to other people, or working out the budget effectively. If you are on your own, this might stop you succeeding. In a team, you can make use of everyone's skills to reach the shared goal.

Developing the ability to work with others is a vital life skill. Think of all the times you need to work in a team, from class projects to playing on a football team. Sports are a really good example of needing to work as a team – team members have to rely on one another, know one another's strengths and weaknesses, listen to one another and communicate well. Working together well means they can reach the shared goal and win the match!

Current location:



Keywords

Group	Organised
Team	Community
Collective	Unity
Jointly	Cooperation
Mutual	Collaboration
As one	Help
In Sync	Supportive

My Inspirations

My favourite quote is:

Because:

'Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm'
– Ralph Waldo Emerson

'Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.'
– Helen Keller

'Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.' – Henry Ford

"Finding good players is easy. Getting them to play as a team is another story." – Casey Stengel

'Teamwork: Simply stated, it is less me and more we.' – Anon

'TEAM = Together Everyone Achieves More' – Anon

'A job worth doing is worth doing together.' – Anon

'A successful team beats with one heart.' – Anon

'Win together, lose together, play together, stay together.' – Anon

Inspirational People



Scott Parker (1980 - present day)
Football Player for England and Spurs

Scott Parker is an English footballer who plays for Tottenham Hotspur and has frequently acted as captain of the England national team. He was the FA Footballer of the Year for the 2010–11 season and he has represented England at every level from under-16 to senior.

Scott Parker was born in London in 1980 and was trained at the Lilleshall School of Excellence, run by the FA. After graduating, he signed for Charlton Athletic and made his first team debut against Bury, signing his first professional contract two months later. Although he didn't play often for Charlton during the next few years, he was considered to be one of the brightest prospects for International Football. He was loaned out to Norwich City to get some more experience and when he returned to Charlton he replaced the injured captain, Mark Kinsella, becoming a vital part of their midfield.

He moved to Chelsea in 2004, Newcastle United in 2005 and played regularly for the first team before moving to West Ham in June 2007 where he became the highest paid player in the club's history. Then he moved to Tottenham Hotspur in 2011. While playing at a club level he also played for England. In February 2012 he was made England Captain by caretaker manager Stuart Pearce.

Scott Parker is known within the football world as being a solid team player, playing consistently good football. During his time at Charlton he was known for creating chances for his team mates and throughout his career has been known for being a vital part of the team. His long and successful career, topped by acting as Captain of the England team, has been a testament to that.



Inspirational People



Barack Obama (1961 – present day)

President of the United States

Barack Obama is the 44th President of the United States, and is the first African American to hold the office. He previously served as a United States Senator from January 2005 until he was elected President in the 2008 election.

Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, Obama grew up in Hawaii and Indonesia and moved to Los Angeles in 1979 to attend Occidental College. In 1981 he transferred to Columbia University in New York City where he majored in Political Science with a specialty in international relations.

Obama worked as a Community Organiser from June 1985 to May 1988, helping to set up a job training programme, a college preparatory tutoring programme and a tenants' rights organisation.

In late 1988 Obama entered Harvard Law School and was elected as the first black president of the Harvard Law Review, an important student run law organisation. In 1991 he accepted a two year position at the University of Chicago Law School where he taught for 12 years, teaching constitutional law. In May 2005 he was elected as senator of Illinois and in 2007 announced he would be running for President.

The Obama 2008 campaign was 'grass roots led' and used Social Media in ways that had not been previously used in presidential campaigns. It involved a huge team of people around him, all bringing their own skills, abilities, networks and campaigns. These people went into the communities, working as an unseen force to raise money, organise locally and get people out to vote. They used a whole team of volunteers and staff on the phones, helping to raise a record breaking \$600 million, while other teams created and shared media clips which were viewed millions of times.



It was an online movement, producing a huge youth voter turnout. Without such a great team around him, using their own skills, expertise and contacts, would he have been elected?

It took a lot of blood, sweat and tears to get to where we are today, but we have just begun. Today we begin in earnest the work of making sure that the world we leave our children is just a little bit better than the one we inhabit today. – Barack Obama

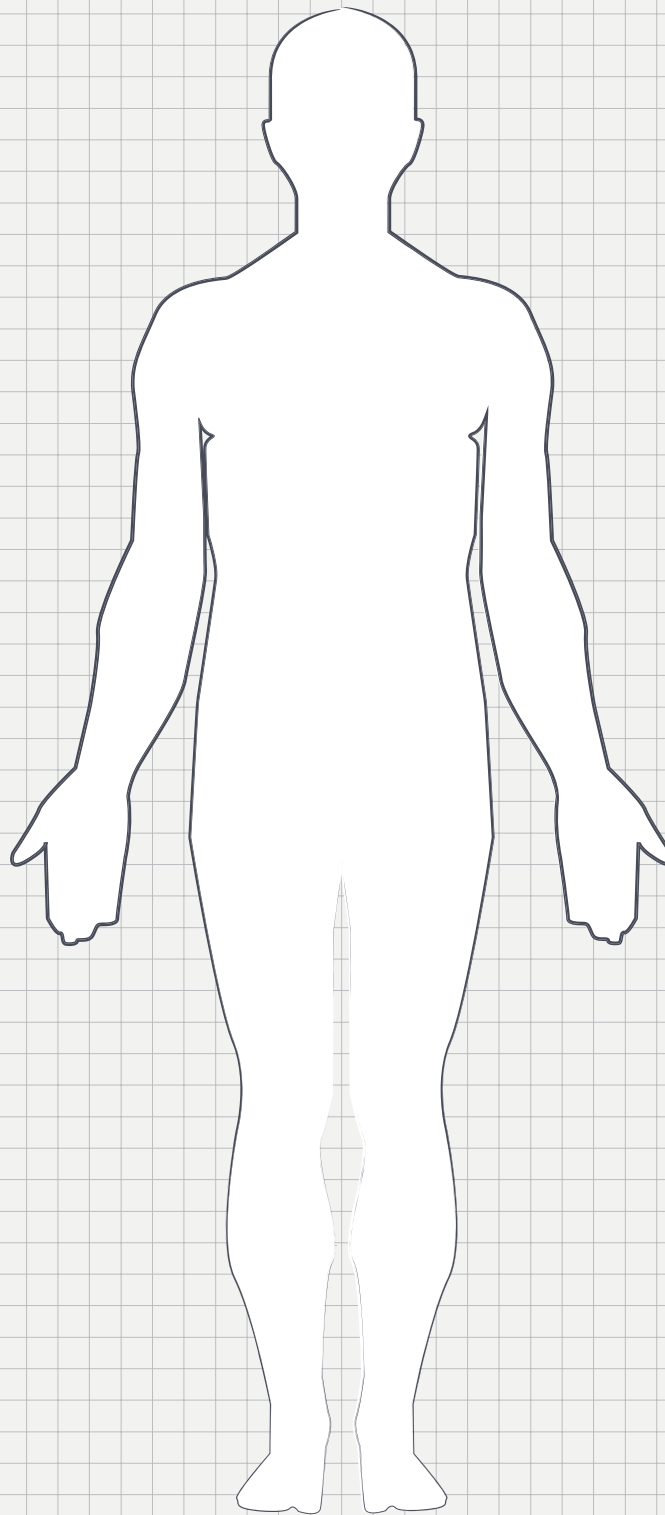
Add a Picture of
your inspirational
person here

Working Together: My Hero

Can you think of an inspirational hero who you think has worked well with other people to achieve success? This could be someone famous, or someone you know personally and lives locally. Explain their life story and how they worked well with others:

Activity 21: The Ideal Team-worker

Write all the character qualities that you think a successful team worker should have. If you are feeling clever, try and link these to parts of the body – so you might write 'Good communicator' near the mouth.



Activity 22: Create Your Ideal Team....

Imagine you were in charge of the whole world for a day. Which ten people would you want in your team to help you run the world?



Who is in your team to rule the world?

Why?

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Five times I have worked with others:

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④

⑤



What Does it Mean?

Important words

Character

is who you are. It is what makes you.....you. It is what you believe in and how you act with others and when on your own. It is your values and your virtues.

Character trait

a feature of an individual or group of people, it tells you about their personality.

Virtue

a quality that is considered desirable in a person, all the good things about you that can be used to describe your character

The Eight Character Traits

Being determined

the ability to keep going whatever happens

Having a dream

having an aspiration, ambition or goal

Having courage

the ability to do the right thing even when it is difficult

Having patience

The capacity to accept or tolerate delay, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious.

Helping others

Make it easier or possible for someone to do something by offering them help

Saving for the future

the quality of using money and other resources carefully and not wastefully

Thinking creatively

the use of imagination or original ideas to create something new

Working together

the combined action of a group, especially when effective and efficient

Other Character Traits

Ambitious

a person with a strong desire to want to achieve something or reach a certain goal

Anxious

a person that is often worried that something may go wrong or not as planned

Charismatic

a character trait that includes traits such as leadership, charm and persuasiveness, an ability to inspire other people. You might often hear people say that a certain person is a charismatic leader; it means that people are naturally drawn to them, they are inspiring.

Compassionate

a person with the desire to help others

Delayed gratification

the ability of a person to wait for something that they want and not get it straight away

Doggedness

determined in effort, a very determined person

Endurance

finishing an unpleasant or difficult activity or process without giving up

Fortitude

being courageous or brave in the face of something difficult, painful or scary

Frugal

being very careful with your money, buying only things that are needed

Honesty

the ability to be truthful, sincere and fair

Humble

to feel that you are no more important than anyone else no matter what the situation, even you are the Queen or richest person in the world

Humility

the ability to be modest and respectful

Innovative

a person that starts something new, creates something or comes up with new ideas or ways to do something

Inspirational

making you feel hopeful or encouraged

Integrity

the possession of firm principles, for example if you are willing to do the right thing – even if nobody is watching

Optimistic

being positive and confident about what will happen

Prudent

acting with and showing care for the future, a person who is careful and sensible

Resilient

the ability to recover quickly from something, for example change, misfortune, illness

Risk averse

the dislike of, and desire, to avoid any type of risk

Sense of humour

the ability to face danger, difficulty, uncertainty and fear

Tenacious

a person that has an opinion in a determined way

Thrifty

a person that is careful with money, avoids waste

Tolerance

the ability to be able to accept difference

Will power

ability to control your own thoughts and how you behave

Other words you may not know**Academic**

relating to school or higher education

Aspiration

a strong desire to achieve something

Audit

looking at previous records to see if they are correct

Credit card

a card issued by a bank for the purchase of items on credit – money that a person does not physically have but they are borrowing from a bank and will pay interest on (a percentage of extra money on top of what they are paying for an item)

Entrepreneur

a person who organises and works in a business, and takes on a financial (money) risk doing so.

Humiliation

to feel very embarrassed or ashamed

Mentor

a person who advises and guides people

Personal statement

a piece of writing about you to describe your character, what you are good at and your passion, normally to give to universities or potential employers.

Philanthropist

a person who makes charitable donations to help others, in time or money

Self-reflection

to think about yourself and reflect on who you are

Reflect

to think about

Resources

an available supply that can

be drawn on when needed, for example a natural resource is a resource supplied by nature including water, wood and air. Vocational providing skills and education that prepare you for a job

Volunteer

a person who does something without receiving money for their work or being forced to do it, normally involves helping other people in some way

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Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Ashbourne

Meadowhead School, Sheffield

Saltley School, Birmingham

For more information about the My Character Project or the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues, please contact t.j.harrison@bham.ac.uk or see www.jubileecentre.ac.uk.

