



Peartree Spring Primary School Cultural Capital

What is cultural capital?

At Peartree Spring we believe cultural capital is about opening doors for our pupils. Drawing from the national curriculum, we strive to give every pupil the vital knowledge they need to thrive as educated citizens—introducing them to the finest ideas, art, and human creativity to spark their curiosity and ambition.

Personal Development

At Peartree Spring we deliberately teach knowledge, skills and attitudes that help pupils become confident, independent learners and prepared citizens. Personal development is embedded through our Learn, Believe, Achieve values and across the curriculum: targeted reading and exploration of rich texts introduce pupils to aspirational figures and role models; PSHE lessons build self-awareness, emotional literacy and strategies for resilience; and assemblies reinforce growth mindset, goal-setting and careers awareness appropriate to primary ages. We provide tailored support for vulnerable groups (PPG and SEND pupils make up significant cohorts) through small-group interventions, nurture provision and bespoke transitions to help pupils access wider experiences. Enrichment activities such as library time, joy of reading time, visiting authors, whole-school projects and subject-focused weeks broaden pupils' horizons and contribute to their cultural knowledge. We monitor impact through pupil voice, behaviour records and progress data (for example strong EYFS outcomes, high phonics pass rates and solid KS2 reading and writing performance), ensuring personal development supports attainment and readiness for the next stage.

Social Development, including political and current affairs awareness

We equip pupils with the social knowledge and civic understanding they need to participate positively in their community. From Reception upwards we use planned curriculum links and circle-time to teach respect, communication, debate and collaborative problem-solving. School councils and pupil leadership roles give children practical experience of representation and decision-making. We develop age-appropriate awareness of current affairs and British values through class discussions, topical assemblies and curriculum links (for example local history, geography topics and reading texts that reflect social themes), ensuring content is accessible and sensitive to our diverse community. Outreach and community links — including local visits in Stevenage, partnerships with civic organisations and charity projects, participation on the Stevenage Youth Parliament — help pupils see how local and national systems work and how they can contribute. For pupils with SEND and those eligible for PPG we provide scaffolded materials and adult support so they can fully participate in social and civic learning.

Physical Development

Physical development at Peartree Spring promotes lifelong health, teamwork and confidence. We deliver a progressive PE curriculum that emphasises fundamental movement skills, sport-specific skills and health education across all key stages; EYFS outcomes show strong physical development and this is built on through Key Stage 1 and 2. A wide range of extra-curricular sports clubs, inter-school competitions and whole-school events (sports days, dance showcases) provides opportunities for aspiration and achievement. We use targeted support for pupils who need additional motor-skill or confidence work and ensure equitable access to activities — subsidised clubs or PPG funding where necessary — so physical cultural experiences are available to all. We also teach health and wellbeing knowledge (nutrition, sleep, exercise, mental-health strategies) through PSHE and thematic work to embed habits that contribute to success later in life.



Spiritual Development

We create space for pupils to reflect, appreciate wonder and explore identity and meaning appropriate to their age and context. Collective worship and assemblies provide considered opportunities to encounter a range of religious and philosophical ideas, celebrate cultural festivals and explore big questions about values and purpose. Curriculum areas such as expressive arts, literature and history are used to introduce pupils to humanity's creative achievements and to encourage awe, empathy and cultural literacy. Our inclusive approach respects the beliefs of our diverse community and supports pupils in developing their own perspectives; pastoral support and reflective activities help pupils process experiences and develop inner resilience. The high-quality expressive arts provision evident in EYFS and across the school supports pupils' spiritual growth through creative expression.

Moral Development

Moral development is taught explicitly and modelled across school life. Through our behaviour expectations, PSHE curriculum and restorative approaches, pupils learn about fairness, justice, responsibility and the consequences of actions. Curriculum themes (stories, historical case studies, community projects) are selected to introduce moral dilemmas and the work of inspirational figures, enabling pupils to consider ethical choices and civic responsibilities. Staff use consistent routines and differentiated approaches to support pupils with SEND or social-emotional needs, ensuring they can learn and practise moral reasoning. Opportunities for service — fundraising, community volunteering and peer buddies — let pupils put moral learning into action and develop a sense of duty and compassion.

Cultural development

We provide a broad, ambitious and sequenced curriculum that introduces pupils to cultural knowledge and achievements across the arts, sciences, humanities and technologies. Carefully chosen texts and classroom resources ensure exposure to diverse voices and historical perspectives, supporting strong literacy outcomes (for example above-average phonics and notable KS2 reading performance). Subject-specific cultural experiences — visiting museums, theatre performances, local heritage walks in Stevenage and in-school workshops — are planned to reinforce classroom learning and make culture tangible. The expressive arts focus in EYFS and ongoing arts opportunities cultivate appreciation of music, visual art and drama. We prioritise access for PPG and SEND pupils through differentiated learning and targeted enrichment, so every pupil can build the cultural capital needed to be an informed, confident and creative citizen.