

Community Links At West Row Academy



At West Row Academy we recognize our position within the local community and we strive to make relationships with the vast array of people and places close to use in order to enrich the curriculum for pupils. We also aim to serve our local community by supporting local charities and events which benefit every stakeholder.

Our Ethos and Values committee are committed to supporting pupils to develop a sense of belonging to a local and global community. The carefully planned Values programme provides children with a variety of opportunities to contribute to their local community – for example through supporting the local food bank (The King’s Project) and global community (raising money for national and international charities, such as Comic Relief).

We foster close relationships with the local churches and children benefit from assemblies led by the local Baptist Church minister, who is also a member of the Academy Council, and Reverend Caroline Butcher of Beck Row With Kenny Hill St John. In addition, the local ‘Open The Book’ group regularly deliver assemblies based on bible stories that support the children’s spiritual development and strengthen links between community members.

Every year, our school choir sings Christmas carols at local Residential Homes and Community Christmas Lunches. The children benefit from being about to contribute to the festive cheer and feel part of local activities. We also take part in local competitions, ranging from sport to community art installations. To celebrate the centenary of the end of WW1, we took part in the local commemorations by honoring the local fallen men in an art installation that was part of a history trail put together by locals.

As well as links with the other schools in our Trust, that allow us to participate in Trust led times tables and spelling competitions, we also have good links with the other schools in our locality, which help our children to transition smoothly when it’s time for them to go to Upper School. We work closely together with our Trust and local schools, sharing expertise, ideas and resources in order to provide the best that we can for all the children in our care.

Underpinning all of this is our Curriculum offer, which ensures that children build knowledge and skills cumulatively and produce work for real world audiences, both local and further afield. Children have written to their local MP’s during our whole school Parliament Week; have held a Global Warming Awareness afternoon as part of their Geography studies; hosted Remembrance Events as part of a study of WW1 and have entered writing competitions and planned budgets for in school events.

Our relationship with our parents is essential and we are very grateful to our Parent and Friends Association, who work very hard to raise money to provide excellent additional resources – including our fantastic Library Bus!