

Thoughts for Chiltern Hills Academy – Aims/INTENT

The TFCHA is devised by a small group of staff to provide a framework for Academic Form Tutors to explore a key moral issue, global event, national initiative or an academy value over a 2 week time period. Areas covered are presented as a PowerPoint used in form time with a direct Christian element included in the form of a prayer/reflection and liturgy, with specific reference to the bible. Students are provided with information about the topic, key questions for discussion and self-reflection and Christian dimensions relating to the topic so as to reflect the ethos of the academy.

Our intent is to provide opportunities for students to:

1. deliver a clear, focused presentation on a relevant topic, issue or value that students' can become engaged with in a reflective way that also links into the schools Act of Worship.
2. provide students with the opportunity to ask big questions, discuss relevant topics and debate issues.
3. provide a way for students to be aware of how issues such as mental health, Holocaust Memorial Week, Remembrance Sunday, environmental issues and so on affect their lives and can be viewed from a Christian perspective.
4. develop a sense of community, involvement in the world, place in society and the academy and develop into responsible citizens.
5. challenge beliefs and stereotypes and ask questions about differences and celebrate our multi-faceted society.
6. participate in the production of TFCHA through School Council involvement and evaluation of TFCHA.

Implementation

The program of TFCHA has 3 main sources for ideas:

1. CHA values are a key element of the TFCHA program and are reflected as individual topics but also are embedded within the rationale behind the relevance of TFCHA for the academy
2. Key themes and topics of an international and national significance – For example: UK Mental Health Awareness Week, Remembrance (WW1 & WW2), Holocaust Memorial Week, Christmas, Ramadan and Environmental Awareness Week.
3. Topics that will engender thought, reflection and discussion – For example sacrifice, the grass isn't always greener, pay it forward and opportunity

It is hoped that the academies Christian ethos provides a clear and focussed framework for the creation and use of the TFCHA and that all members of the school community will be challenged not only to engage with the content but to reflect upon their own personal contribution to society within the context of the TFCHA.

Impact

This is far more than a curriculum, it is an endeavour to get students to progress as valuable, responsible citizens who are able to engage with society in a moral and honourable way. It has at its core the central Christian value 'do unto others as you would have them do unto you'. By showing respect for society, for key values and for key events we are far more likely to earn respect and feel valued members of our community.

It is hoped that students will discuss issues, celebrate events, understand the wider world and cultural

issues, express opinions, show tolerance and understanding, engage in self-reflection and evaluate their own view on relevant issues.

Enrichment opportunities-

Student involvement in writing TFCHA

Student involvement in Charity events related to TFCHA. For example - Mental Health Week, The Poppy Appeal, Christmas Food Bank.

The opportunity to deliver an assembly on one of the TFCHA topics (either whole school or year group)