

BOOST YOUR OFSTED RATING

How to Hit Ofsted's Personal Development Requirement

How can you build a curriculum that helps your students grow into mature, responsible and conscientious global citizens?



Introduction

Ofsted's latest Education Inspection Framework (EIF) has recently been published, and the personal development of students is included as a new area for inspection.

The EIF states that schools should create a curriculum that goes beyond the academic and promotes students' broader development by helping them build the cultural capital, resilience, confidence, and independence they need to succeed in life.

Ofsted also states that your curriculum should help students grow into responsible citizens who contribute to society, appreciate diversity and celebrate what we have in common.

The EIF emphasises that it's the range of personal development opportunities that your school offers to students which will be measured and assessed, rather than your students' personal development itself.

So, how can you build a curriculum that helps your students grow into:

- Mature
- Responsible
- conscientious

global citizens?



Inspectors are looking for...

The EIF states that Ofsted inspectors will look at how well your school promotes students' moral, social and cultural education.

This means that students should be able to reflect on their own worldviews, be respectful of other people's faiths, and enjoy learning about the world around them. They should also be able to use their social skills to work with those from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, and be interested in exploring different cultures.



Key takeaway

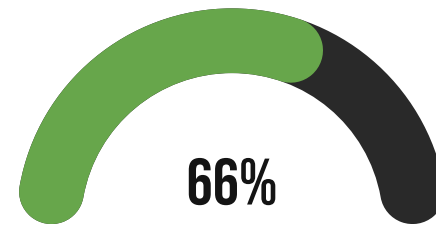
One key aspect that inspectors will look at is the range, quality and take-up of extra-curricular activities offered by your school.



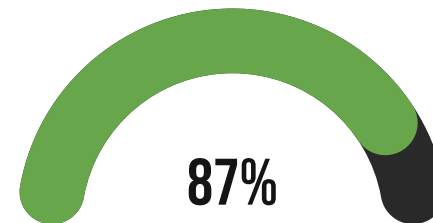
The Impact of Learning Outside the Classroom

Giving students the chance to take their learning outside the classroom through school trips helps them develop a deeper understanding of their place in the world, cement their learning with real-world experiences, and build confidence and independence.

In fact, a recent study by Oxford Home Schooling found that nearly half of parents think their children learn more from school trips than in the classroom, and 34% believe there should be more trips offered as part of the curriculum. Another survey found that 66% of secondary students thought they were better at problem-solving and would do better in their exams after a school trip, whilst 87% said their trip made them feel more confident trying new things.



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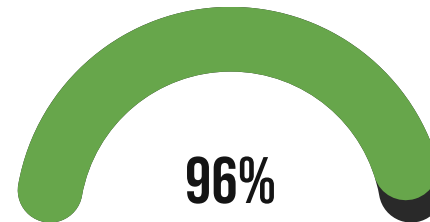
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Giving Students the Skills to Grow

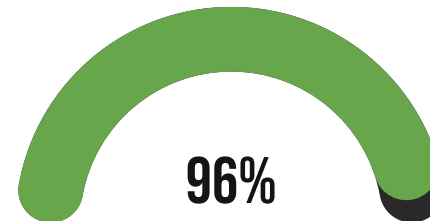
This is backed up by our own survey, which found that 97% of our volunteers felt their trip had given them the confidence to try new things.

Additionally, 98% of our volunteers said their trip gave them a deeper understanding of the wider world, 96% felt their trip helped them develop new skills for later life, and 96% felt their trip enabled them to grow in terms of personal development.

Finally, Ofsted itself has highlighted the importance of learning outside the classroom, stating that, “learning outside the classroom contributed significantly to improving pupils’ personal, social and emotional development.”



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How Can a School Trip to Africa Help?

As a member of the School Travel Forum and a proud holder of a quality badge from the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom, our school trips to Africa have been proven to deliver tangible educational outcomes for students and can help you meet the requirements for an Outstanding grade in personal development.

With our trips, your students can explore a new culture, gain confidence, develop their independence, and grow into global citizens.



Developing a New Worldview

Through volunteering at our partner schools in developing areas of Ghana, Kenya and Zanzibar, your students will make a positive contribution to the lives of the children who attend them, while also learning about everything they have in common with young people in Africa.

In the process, they'll develop a new worldview and learn about their place in the wider world.





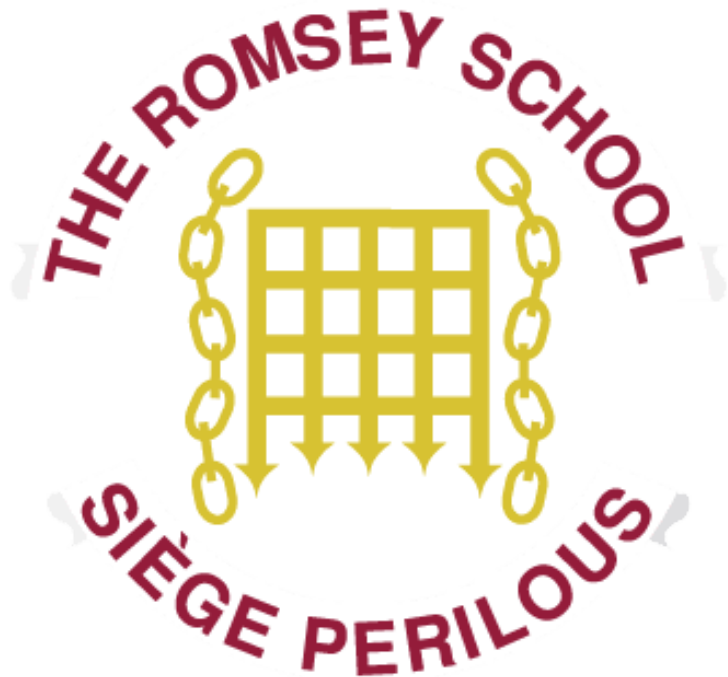
AN IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

In the process, your students will go far beyond the normal tourist trail and become immersed in the culture of your chosen destination as they enjoy a truly authentic experience of the communities where we work.

They'll learn what life is like for the people who live there in a way that a conventional school trip could never achieve and make a meaningful contribution to the community through our ethical model of volunteering which promotes sustainable development.

Hitting the Outstanding Mark for Personal Development

Schools that have travelled with us have had their trips to Africa highlighted in their Ofsted reports:



Romsey have travelled with us since 2013, and over 200 students have benefitted from the experience of volunteering in Kenya. The school has been rated as Outstanding for personal development, with inspectors stating that, “pupils care deeply about the world around them...pupils readily get involved in charity and fundraising, such as the annual Year 11 trip to Kenya, where they support children in local schools. Pupils are tolerant of people and cultures that are different from their own. The school helps them to learn about and celebrate diversity.”

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Chichester has travelled with us since 2011 and were also rated Outstanding for personal development. The Ofsted inspectors stated, that, “staff provide a rich and varied range of extra-curricular activities that expose learners to topics beyond their immediate experience. Staff encourage learners to develop personal qualities that will help them flourish in life. For example, learners visit charities in Kenya to build schools, and many go on to return to Kenya before starting higher education.”



Interested in learning more?

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