



HOW “THE BIG THINK” IMPROVES CHILDREN’S ATTAINMENT & LIFE CHANCES

From September 2020 primary schools in England had to start including in their Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education schemes of work, provision for Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE). The Big Think is a comprehensive Personal Development and Wellbeing programme for children aged 5 to 11 that energises teachers and helps them shape and facilitate the effective delivery of the new changes in education through its 120 fully-resourced, values-themed Assembly kits and Lesson plans. This time-saving, carefully structured yet flexible resource constantly creates purposeful opportunities for children to maximise their potential and gradually grow into happy, healthy, responsible, resilient, active citizens.

The Big Think’s core values promote all that is positive

The Big Think’s empowering, experiential-learning modules (60 for ages 5 to 7 and 60 for ages 7 to 11) are grouped under five universal core values that resonate well with young children:

- ❖ **Truth** sessions deepen **self-awareness**
- ❖ **Love** sessions nurture **relationship skills**
- ❖ **Peace** sessions foster **self-regulation**
- ❖ **Responsibility** sessions enable **responsible decision-making**
- ❖ **Community** sessions amplify **social awareness**

Each lesson includes a few moments of silent sitting, a contemporary story, a variety of engaging activities, a song, a follow-up action and time for a personal journal that together deepen learning and create quality opportunities for the children to incrementally develop:

- social and emotional skills
- good habits
- character strengths
- meaningful relationships
- reflection
- critical thinking
- growth mindset
- sound decision-making
- communication skills
- leadership qualities



Outcomes from The Big Think

Embedding The Big Think in the curriculum creates a whole-school, joined-up approach to the personal development of each child, their positive character traits, their wellbeing and their academic progress and results in:

- ◆ positively impacting the school culture and promoting best practices
- ◆ ensuring the long-term sustainability of high-quality holistic education
- ◆ increasing the opportunities for children to master essential life skills
- ◆ improving attainment levels, whatever children's social backgrounds
- ◆ inspiring children to use their talents and energy for the good of all.

Effects of The Big Think on individuals

Systematic use of The Big Think acts as a catalyst that allows all participants to flourish. Over time not only children but also teachers, non-teaching staff, parents, carers and all other members of the school's community notice that they are experiencing a transformative values journey that is making positive changes to their own lives and bringing about lasting differences for themselves, their families, their schools and their wider communities with the benefits having a ripple effect that enhances the fabric of society.

For the children, the engaging Big Think challenges enable them to:

- conjure up a motivational vision for themselves and the world around them
- form and maintain meaningful relationships
- look after their physical and mental health and be safe
- develop their interests and fulfil their potential
- think through and devise solutions for matters that are of concern to them
- turn their Big Ideas into reality
- have a voice, take the initiative and lead change
- create and take part in opportunities to safeguard our natural world
- participate confidently and effectively in social actions, and
- continue learning and shaping their futures as they would wish.