

School of Education

Hillary Place
University of Leeds
Leeds LS2 9JT

T +44 (0) 113 343 4606
F +44 (0) 113 343 4541



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

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Dear Colleague,

We'd like to draw to your attention the opportunity to participate in the Narnian Virtues character education project free of charge. The curriculum offers flexibility in terms of tasks, but is built around 12 extracts from *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. It takes just two hours per week over 12 weeks although it can be completed to a different timescale, and there is the opportunity for new schools to participate in 2018.

We provide all the electronic materials free to schools (a sample of which is attached) in exchange for pupils completing a pre and post-test so we can measure what impact engaging with characters from C.S. Lewis's Narnia has had on their virtue literacy and dispositions. Although originally designed for children of middle school age, we believe that the curriculum works with a wide range of ages. It seeks to promote the virtues of wisdom, love, justice, self-control, fortitude and integrity as pupils study the characters in Narnia.

Our findings so far show that students made significant gains in their knowledge and understanding of virtues and character, their ability to empathise and their attitudes to virtues (how important they were to students).

The programme involves a 'character passport' with home activities to be completed with families, and parents have found the curriculum to be a valuable resource for enabling them to support their child's character development.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further we would be delighted to take up the conversation with you either over the phone or through a visit to your school in February/March. Please contact us at narnianvirtues@leeds.ac.uk, or call us on 0113 3434529. Please visit our website, <https://narnianvirtues.leeds.ac.uk/>, for further information.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mark Pike in black ink.

Professor Mark A. Pike
Professor of Education,
University of Leeds, UK

Handwritten signature of Tom Lickona in black ink.

Professor Thomas Lickona
Director, Center for the 4th and 5th Rs
Professor of Education Emeritus
State University of New York at Cortland
USA

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