

## HeadteacherChat's Review of Amazing People Schools

Read the full review below...

### How does Amazing People Schools describe their product?

Amazing People Schools is an award-winning, online learning platform that helps schools to inspire the next generation of leaders, achievers, blue sky thinkers and glass ceiling breakers, through the lens of role models and character.

We support schools to use the golden thread of character to support leaders and teachers in tackling core issues and provide solutions for wellbeing, inclusion, diversity, representation and behaviour management as well as increasing cultural capital and enhancing academic achievement. Need help embedding character into your Trust, school or classroom? Click [here](#) to arrange to speak to one of our team.

The screenshot displays the 'Amazing People to discover...' section of the website. It features a grid of eight circular portraits of famous figures: Martin Luther King Jr., Benjamin Franklin, Marie Curie, Alan Turing, Sengul Naidu, Azeke Sills, Charlotte Brontë, and William Shakespeare. Below this grid, a callout box states: 'Each Amazing Person has a profile like this that students can access online'. The profile for Frida Kahlo is shown, featuring a cartoon illustration of her and a video player. A callout box points to the video player, stating: 'It includes, their life story in video, audio and written format.' Below the video player, a callout box points to a quiz section, stating: 'With an interactive quiz to check their comprehension of the story'. The quiz question is: 'Which country was Frida Kahlo born in?' with options: Colombia, Guatemala, Cuba, Mexico, and Bolivia. The correct answer, Mexico, is highlighted.

### What does it enable you to do?

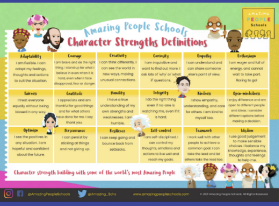
On first glance, the resources from Amazing People Schools can seem to be 'just' a digital school library, but there is SO much more to it than that!

The library contains a vast number of stories about individuals from around the world, with an emphasis on diversity. In each story, the 'character strengths' of the person are


highlighted and this is a key part of the resources. Children are taught the language of these character strengths, giving them the vocabulary they need to support their own mental health and well-being when discussing other situations, or their own qualities.

### Our Character Strength Resources Explained....

Our handy Character Strengths Definitions Chart is a great place to start...



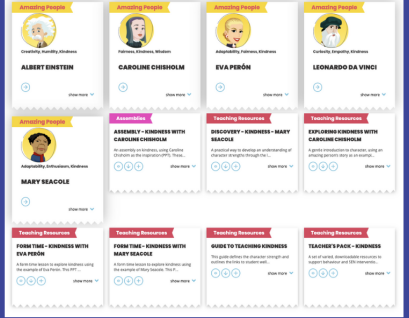
Once you know which Character Strength is your focus, type this word into the search bar to see all of the resources available.



Kindness

You'll find out which Amazing People are covered by that strength...

Kindness (12)



...and which resources are available to support embedding that strength.

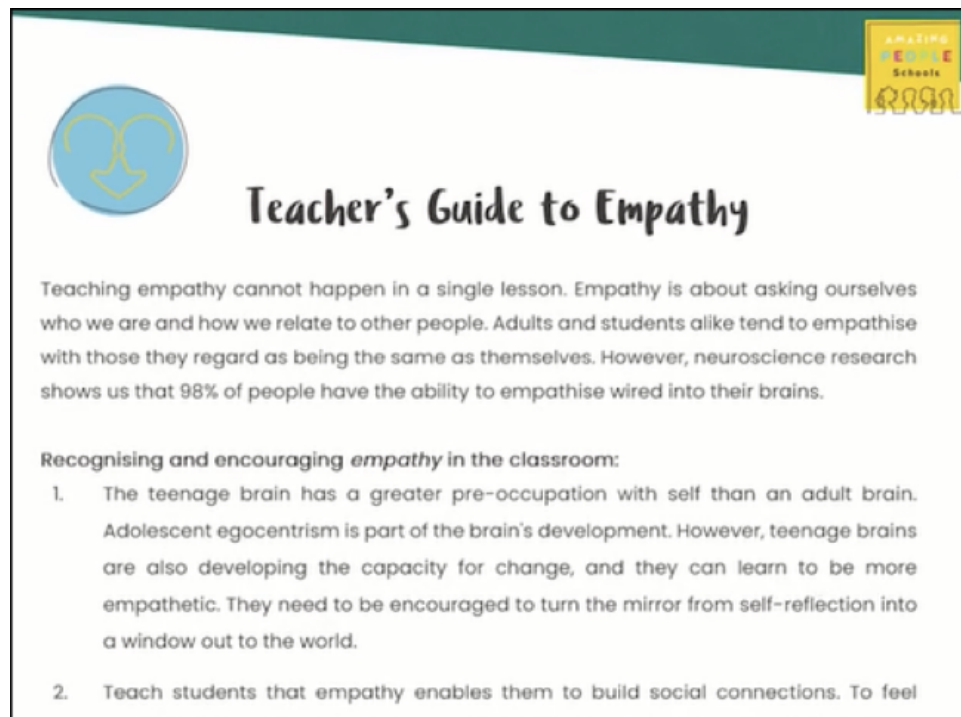
The database can be searched for a specific person, character strength or type of activity. Alternatively, to promote cross curricular work or for secondary teachers, there are 'Subject Spotlights', allowing staff to search resources by subject.



Once a person is selected, the stories can be watched or read, either individually, as a class or in a school assembly. Each one includes either a photo or video, with the story written in the first person and the character strength explicitly highlighted, for discussion. A timeline is provided, showing important events in the person's life as well as links to other historical events that are relevant to their story. A quiz or activity linked to the character strength can then be completed to reinforce the story and individual's specific area of strength.

Advice is also provided on how best to use and adapt the resources with children with additional needs. The Amazing People website has separate sections for primary and secondary. The famous people featured are the same in both, although the information is in greater depth for secondary schools. There are additional features in the secondary version, for example, a useful transition unit, 'Amazing people in careers' and 'Character in action' cards, and activities to promote critical thinking.

A Teacher's Guide provides support on how to draw out and discuss the character strengths displayed by the individual stories. A useful glossary is also provided.



'Today's Amazing Person Library' is another useful section; a small section is shown below. Again, the range of people is contemporary and diverse. The short biography, with the character strength highlighted, is supplemented by thoughtful questions which can be explored in assemblies or form time.



There are plenty more resources available on the website, including oracy activities, Literacy booklets and extension questions. Amazing People also offer an extensive range of CPD on 'Character Matters'. This can be face to face or online self-learning modules to support staff to understand the benefits of character strengths and how best to use the resources to maximise the impact on their children's mental health and well-being.



## **Benefits of using Amazing People?**

- Easy-to-use online library of a wide range of diverse and inspirational people
- Whole school approach to promoting character strengths and techniques for children to talk about the language associated with these
- Colourful, child-friendly and very accessible resources
- Useful teacher guides to maximise the resources and save time
- Fully supports and complements the school's PSHE, and wider, curriculum

### **Testimonials:**

"I was really inspired. The whole idea of your website is wonderful. It teaches children so many skills. It's all through the values and the characteristics but it is also so cross-curricular. As a school, we are trying to develop children's cultural capital and widen their understanding of inspirational people. We're trying to teach children that there's no limit to their capabilities and whatever they want to be, they can. Amazing People Schools really aligns with our values."

**Helen Gambon, Deputy Head, Redgate Community Primary**

"We're looking at our curriculum and how to diversify it. What attracted us to Amazing People Schools was definitely the role models - the different representation and being able to have all the various cultural backgrounds and genders available."

**Melissa Lowry, Diversity Lead and Class Teacher, Knebworth Primary**

"A fantastic online resource that's designed to present good, positive stories of people from different backgrounds and cultures who have made a difference to the world. Child-friendly and easy to access and read, the colourful, inclusive materials combine to make for an amazing resource that can be used to teach resilience and empower children to believe they can achieve anything."

**Ann-Marie Christian, Teach Secondary Awards**

Plus you get access to resources featuring contemporary icons...



In summary, HeadteacherChat recommends Amazing People Schools because: 'The vast array of resources that they offer, truly values diversity and representation, and helps to promote children's well-being, confidence, and self-esteem. Schools can provide children with the language and resources they need to explore and develop their unique qualities and character strengths.' Lucy Coy, CEO, March 2023