



# Holly Values

September 2019

## Holly Values

A value is a principle that guides our thinking and our behaviour. At Holly the whole staff team, parents and pupils are involved in promoting our **'Holly Values'** which were chosen by the staff, pupils and parents to support the personal development of each child as well as to guide how we act and behave towards each other. We want our children to be emotionally intelligent articulate learners. Our **'Holly Values'** support quality teaching and learning where every individual is valued for who they are and what they contribute to the school. As a school using pupil voice, we choose these words to express what we felt were important elements to enable the school to be a wonderful, exciting, happy place to be educated.

### **Family Friendship Happiness Kindness Teamwork Respect Caring Safety Honesty Supportive**

- The values developed have been selected after consultation with pupils, staff and parents as values which are important within the school community and which will be important throughout life. Through these values we aim to:
  - Improve behaviour, conduct and self-confidence by developing strong values within the pupils at the school.
  - Develop pupils' understanding of what values are and why they are important in life.
  - Encourage children to 'live the values' in all aspects of their lives both in school and out.
  - Promote values to pupils in every aspect of school life.
  - Promote values in the way in which adults interact with each other and with pupils.
  - Display our school values and encourage all visitors to take account of them in their time in the school.
  - Enable children to focus upon the positive aspects of themselves that they can value, thereby reminding them of their individual worth, their worth in the school and wider communities and the worth of those communities themselves.
  - To raise standards by promoting a school ethos that is underpinned by core values which support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere.
  - To link our school values with the British Values.

Our **'Holly Values'** are displayed through art work made by every class within the school and included all children within each class in our entrance foyer and encourage all visitors to take account of them in their time in school.

Our assembly timetable for each term focus on either a **'Holly Value'** or a British Value as well as themed celebratory days in order to promote these values at a dedicated time each day throughout the year on a rolling programme.

**'Holly Values'** are an intrinsic part of our school and are reflected in both the whole school curriculum permeating every aspect of school life and hopefully in their life outside of school and in their future lives to come.

## **'Family'**

At Holly, we feel like we belong to a bigger family which supports us in our learning by trusting each other and building connections between families and school. Teachers, parents and children work together to ensure that the children succeed and flourish in their education.

## **'Friendship.'**

This value is explored constantly in all areas of school life. Children (and adults) are at their happiest and most confident when amongst friends. Unhappy times at school are usually as a result of children having minor 'fall outs' or disagreements with each other. Staff are sensitive in dealing with these issues and children are very clear about what makes a good friend. Friendship can mean different things to different people and we reflect on, and value the friendships we already have. We also talk about making new friends. Friends come in all shapes and sizes. Some are older, some are younger, some are always there, some we only see occasionally. What makes a good friend? How do we choose our friends? Are we a good friend to others? Questions we can all ask ourselves – whatever our age! For me, Holly is a great place for friendship and I hope that all of the staff, parents and children will find friendship here. Friendship plays a very important part in our lives.

## **'Happiness'**

If children are happy at school, they will learn better so we ensure that our school is a happy place to be where learning will take place and each child will reach their full potential. We believe that young people achieve their best if they are happy at school. We listen to our children and value their well-being and mental health. Making school a happy place for learners is a combined outcome of people places and activities. The teachers and staff all have a welcoming smile and caring demeanour which allows the children to feel safe and valued. This helps develop confidence by creating a positive and supportive environment for learning, the teachers actively model how they would like the children to behave. Holly Primary School is a happy place to be where teachers strive to make learning fun and exciting.

## **'Kindness'**

The children at Holly are wonderful at being kind to each other, to visitors and to outsiders. Daily we witness acts of kindness by our children and we reward them for it. We show kindness and compassion towards each other each and every day. Showing kindness to each other is a very important value and we as adults are the best role models our children have.

## **'Teamwork'**

At Holly School, we build good teamwork by working together to get something done. We encourage the children to talk and agree how to do something. We discuss how being helpful and doing your bit to sort something out can achieve great results. Children need to think about how they need to co-operate and work together as a team to achieve goals in all areas of the curriculum. We realise that good teamwork, needs children to be good at interacting and joining in, listening and respecting each other and lending each other a helping hand.

## **'Respect'**

This value is at the core of everything we do in school. It underpins learning, through behaviour and one's attitude to the people and the world around them. We want our whole school community to respect each other. We feel that one of the most important things you can teach children is respect and the best way to teach respect is to show respect. When a child experiences respect, they know what it feels like and begin to understand how important it is.

## **'Caring'**

We promote the value of caring for others in school. The greatest work that caring does to others is that it makes them caring themselves. Kind actions and a caring nature to one person or a group of others has a positive and reciprocal effect. We care about our children each other and our school.

## **'Safety'**

We are committed to health and safety in our school. Feeling safe and happy allows children to look forward to being in an encouraging environment where the best learning will take place.

## **'Honesty'**

We encourage children to be honest and talk about how honest people: tell the truth despite consequences, voice their opinions in a kind, thoughtful way.

*"Honesty is the best policy. If I lose mine honour, I lose myself."* William Shakespeare.

*"To make your children capable of honesty is the beginning of education."* John Ruskin.

## **'Supportive'**

In supporting each other with our work and well-being we will achieve great things. Creating a positive and supportive school environment is a key element of our whole school approach to mental health and well-being. In a safe and supportive learning environment we can foster positive trusting relationships with children and encourage parent and family involvement in education. As a school, we are a loving, supportive community with high aspirations for all. We promote inclusion, and are proud to belong and value each individual we look after. We support each other believing in second chances. We aim to be the best we can be so we can serve and support the common good.