

# Building Character and Resilience



**Approved by:** Governing Body

**Last reviewed on:** September 2022

**Next review due by:** September 2023

## **Our Philosophy**

Character and resilience are defined by many features including:

- Caring about other people
- Honesty
- Responsibility
- Being good citizens
- Being true to ourselves
- Saying no to bullies
- Resilience

This is integral to everything we do at Cornfields. Photographs around our school show us engaging in many activities which demonstrates our approach in building character and resilience.

## **How do we do this?**

Our character-building activities build both positive values and self-esteem. We model our values and work on them throughout the day in school. However, our pupils also need explicit teaching so we do this through many different activities.

Some of the activities include;

- Showing acts of kindness to others
  - Recognising strengths and positive attributes, we show others acts of kindness.
- Being a good friend
  - Being taught social skills and friendship skills. We teach getting on with each other and tolerance. Adults model this through all of their relationships in school.
- Charity events and helping others
  - We have engaged in fundraising for the cat sanctuary, the British Legion and Children in Need.
- Show and Tell
  - Pupils share items conveying their culture, individuality, and unique interests and experience. Students learn both diversity and empathy as well as what is truly important to them and to their classmates.
- This Is Me

- Pupils demonstrate their individual strengths in a positive manner. They learn about themselves and others.
- We take them out into the real world
  - Pupils learn to interact with the world around them, how to conduct themselves and how to enjoy their surroundings.

## **Bullying**

Any incidence of a bullying nature is dealt with as soon as it is identified and we routinely engage in appropriate discussions on the topic in school. As a school we also actively engage in the anti-bullying week which reinforces our zero tolerance to bullying. Pupils know who to speak to if they feel they are being bullied and our Head boy and Head girl take a proactive peer to peer approach in identifying and reporting any issues.

## **Make a Difference**

We take pride in our environment and pupils take responsibility for keeping the garden and play spaces tidy. Pupils openly speak about this being 'their school'.

## **Do the Right Thing**

We teach pupils how to keep safe and help pupils learn to navigate situations using role playing in various scenarios. We also help them identify wrongs, know when to report matters and who to report to.

## **Character Building Games**

We play games with the pupils where they learn to take turns and to share. Importantly, they learn to both win and lose.

## **Resilience**

We teach skills of resilience so pupils can bounce back and learn from their experiences.