

## CURRICULUM STATEMENT for Highbury Primary School

### Context of our school:

Highbury is a two-form entry school with 409 pupils on roll in the main school and 71 pupils in the Nursery. Pupils are organised into 14 classes in the main school with four nursery classes - three for three- year olds and one for two year olds. The vast majority of pupils who attend the Nursery, transition into school.

The school is part of the Cosham ward. The deprivation indicator is 0.2, however 47% of families receive working tax credit and there are a significant number of one parent families. The school has an above average social housing need – which is six times the expected norm. Pupils come from predominantly White British Ethnic heritage. There are now fourteen different first languages spoken in addition to English.

- 23% of children are on the Ever Six list and 1.47% of pupils are eligible for services premium.
- 19% of the children have SEND – the majority with speech, language and communication or specific learning difficulty.
- Pupils speaking EAL or with SEND, or in receipt of pupil premium, or are vulnerable amount to approximately 73% of the school population.
- Turbulence is high 1 in 10 pupils either joined or left after their reception year.

### We believe the purpose of education in our school is:

We believe that childhood should be a happy, safe and enquiring time where curiosity is encouraged. We expect the children to develop a thirst for new experiences and knowledge. Children from all backgrounds should have the same opportunities. We therefore provide a rich and varied curriculum with practical experiences within our themes. Community involvement is an essential part of our curriculum as we celebrate local traditions, learning new skills to enable the children to take an active role in events throughout the year.

Highbury Primary School provides opportunities for children to develop as independent confident learners with high aspirations who know how to make a positive contribution to their community and the wider society. The educational experience is underpinned by the School's mission statement:

**To be an inclusive, safe and caring community where each member is equally valued and nurtured**

**To achieve academic excellence by ensuring each pupil has opportunities to develop their potential**

**To work together as a team with parents and carers within the community to promote rights, respect and responsibility for the benefit of all**

Children at Highbury are valued as Individuals, Inspired and Nurtured as Learners within an inclusive community respecting and celebrating the cultural diversity of the school, the local community and the wider world. Opportunities are given for children to gain a sense of pride for being a good citizen in the community in which they live through the embedding of the core values of:

**Respect Resilience Confidence Kindness Inclusive Aspiration**

#### **Our curriculum achieves this through:**

At Highbury the immersive curriculum is designed to allow the children a wealth of learning experiences including practical enquiry, visits and visitors to engage the children. The curriculum allows the children to develop interpersonal skills, build resilience and become creative, critical thinkers.

The PSHE curriculum and the implementation of 'My Happy Minds' provides opportunities for wellbeing allowing children to build their confidence in sharing their experiences and their feelings.

Every child is recognised as a unique individual. We celebrate and welcome differences within our school community. The ability to learn is underpinned by the teaching of basic skills, knowledge, concepts, vocabulary and values. An emphasis is placed on the development of a rich and progressive vocabulary which empowers children to articulate their thoughts and become confident to investigate and seek information beyond the school walls. We celebrate the children's achievements outside school.

Reading and communication skills are embedded within the curriculum. We provide enhancement opportunities through weekly Forest School lessons and children are offered a wide range of extra-curricular activities with a full range of after school clubs.

#### **A well-educated child in our community will:**

We use our school values to promote positive attitudes to learning and developing a growth mind set for all. These reflect the skills and attitudes needed to promote responsibility for learning and future success. The children will be able to explain about the need to be respectful, resilient, confident, kind, inclusive and aspirational and how these help them as life-long learners.

They will;

- Have developed a strong sense of identity within the school and belonging to the community
- Have the confidence and skills to make decisions
- Have aspirations to achieve with a growth mind set
- Have the skills to self-evaluate, make connections and become lifelong learners
- Be able to keep themselves safe
- Be able to transfer to secondary school as an independent learner
- Continue to contribute to the wider society and be a responsible citizen who is tolerant and respectful of others' values and beliefs

Children leave Highbury Primary School with a sense of belonging to a tightly knit community. They have the confidence, aspirations, understand their choices in life and the difference they can make as a global citizen.