

Compassion – Courage – Hope – Integrity – Justice  
Respect – Responsibility - Wisdom



**Herne Bay Junior School**

# Community Cohesion Policy

**Policy Agreed: Sept 2017**

**Review Date: Sept 2018**

*'we recognise our duty to establish equality for all students, staff, other members of the school community and service users regardless of their ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age or beliefs as defined within existing equalities legislation.'*

We have always encouraged the children at Herne Bay Junior School to think of themselves as part of the Herne Bay community. Our vision statement says:

'At Herne Bay we aim to provide a caring community in which each individual feels supported and secure. In this way we learn to operate successfully in the community at large'

It is understandable, therefore, why we promote community cohesion at many different levels:

- Within school
- Within the local community
- Across the UK
- Globally

## **Background Information**

Herne Bay Junior School is a four form entry junior school in Herne Bay, Kent.

The majority of children attending the school live locally. Our population is mainly white however, we do have a few children from a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds and we must ensure that they are included in our curriculum. Our custom is to celebrate difference and our policy affirms current practice.

The area from which are children come is mostly comprised of people who live in close knit communities, in older houses within an old industrial area. The local community is made up of a mixture of occupations but much of this is manual rather than white collar jobs. Educational attainment in the area is mixed. (Information taken from Kent Schools Mosaic Profile)

## **School commitment**

Community cohesion is part of the school culture and ethos and is demonstrated through:

- Our core values
- Our commitment to the Every Child Matters agenda through our management structure
- The school vision
- The teaching, thinking and learning policy, which has the aim of facilitating positive relationships of the school community and values and respect for all cultures.

Our other awards all demonstrate a commitment to the community – organisation of sports tournaments, dance residencies etc. these include Healthy schools award, Active Primary and our curriculum top twenty enrichment programme.

## **Legal Duties**

We recognise our duties under the race relations Act 1976 as amended by the race Relations Amendment Act 2000; the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005; and the Sex discrimination Act 1975 as amended by the Equality Act 2006.

We recognise our duty under the Education and Inspectors Act 2006 to promote Community Cohesion.

Since July 2015, schools and a range of other public bodies have a legal responsibility to give due regard to the need to prevent children and young people from being drawn into terrorism. This is known as the Prevent duty and is part of the schools wider safeguarding.

Herne Bay Junior School has a clear policy in place for protecting children at risk of radicalisation. This can be found on the school website and is part of the schools overarching safeguarding policy.

## **The School Community – children, parents/carers, staff, governing body and other users**

### **Teaching Learning and Curriculum**

We offer a broad balanced curriculum which places an emphasis on-creativity, cultivation of curiosity, fostering self esteem and personal responsibility:

- We teach the principles of all religions
- We offer the SEAL programme throughout the school
- We celebrate ethnic diversity through a range of special events
- We offer high quality Special Needs provision through a range of means
- We track children’s progress carefully and can flag up anomalies promptly
- We seek to address a variety of learning styles

### **Equity and Excellence**

- We motivate all learners by promoting creativity and the cultivation of an atmosphere of curiosity and interest through our curriculum enrichment top twenty programme
- We enable all children to access the curriculum through our Special Needs provision
- We have a clear plan for the development of Teaching, Thinking and Learning and all staff are committed to continuous improvement
- Our Core Values promote excellence in all areas of school life
- We ensure all children have 2 hours of high quality physical activity a week
- We closely monitor attendance at extra curricular clubs and seek to provide these opportunities for as many children as possible

### **Engagement and Extended Services**

- We offer a before school care breakfast club. Our new extended schools building will be utilized by the after school club and a number of parent groups.
- We have an onsite FLO
- We offer a wide range of extra curricula activity including some holiday provision
- We have many links with the local community in varied ways (see later sections)
- We instill a sense of community through our School Council, Peer Mediators, Playtime leaders
- We operate a whole school Behaviour Management policy “Going for Gold” which also instills a sense of community
- We have a PTA.
- We operate an open door policy for parents

## **The Local Community**

### **Teaching, Learning and Curriculum**

- We raise awareness of the local community through curricular activity such as traffic survey, visits to local churches, town studies, local museums, swimming lessons, Victorian walk, library, celebrating Herne Bay in Bloom, coastal visits, galleries, Canterbury Festival, local events and our curriculum top twenty enrichment programme.
- We invite members of the local community into school e.g. Vicar, police, fire service, Salvation army, EDF, local veterans to talk about WW2, local press, Red Arrows and ex-pupils. The SSCO and local sports clubs offer tasters session in school in order to develop children's interest in joining out of school clubs.
- We promote active citizenship as part of the ethos of the school

### **Equity and Excellence**

- We are part of the Canterbury Coastal Partnership

### **Engagement and Extended Services**

- We work closely with our Extended Schools Co-ordinator and have been involved in a number of local community initiatives.
- We take part in many inter school initiatives e.g. sports tournaments, music events and host some of them
- We run community classes for members of the local area
- We have a significant number of community lettings at our school
- We have in place a comprehensive Induction programme to help children in our KS1 feeder school to make the transition and work closely with our secondary schools to support Key Stage 2 to 3 induction
- We provide mentoring for vulnerable children

## **The UK Community**

### **Teaching and Learning and the Curriculum**

Awareness of our extended community is developed in a variety of ways:

- Through our residential visits programme we visit Swattenden, PGL & Bushcraft
- The Headteacher has visited other education authorities and other schools in the area
- Year 6 study World War 2 and evacuees. This gives our children a sense of place within the UK
- We hold Charity days for UK based charities including Red Nose day and Children in Need

### **Engaged and Extended Services**

- Our residential and day visit programmes promotes knowledge of and interaction with other parts of the country
- The Headteacher attends the Coastal Alliance Headteacher meetings
- The School council have visited the Houses of Parliament
- A member of staff took part in the Houses of Parliament week long residential education programme

## **The Global Community**

### **Teaching, Learning and Curriculum**

- We have started teaching Spanish throughout the school
- ICT is enabling a global perspective to be more available to all
- Charity days support global charities

### **Equity and Excellence**

- All children have access to Residential visits through an offer of financial support
- We run special events which often celebrates different cultures and promotes tolerance
- Through curriculum activity all children have access to a global perspective

### **Engagement and extended services**

After school clubs include:

- French
- Music (various instruments)
- Sport (various )
- Cookery