

# Castle Hill Primary School Visions & Ethos Policy



Reviewed on: September 2020

Next Review date: September 2021

Reviewed by: Headteacher

Review frequency: Annually

## **Education Brief**

### **Introduction**

This Education Brief has been compiled to set out clearly for interested parties the key building blocks for Castle Hill Primary School both now and in the future.

### **Vision and Ethos Statement**

Castle Hill Primary will provide a welcoming, safe, inclusive and stimulating learning environment, securing and promoting links between school, home, the wider community and appropriate partners. Castle Hill School, in partnership with stakeholders, will optimise educational opportunities and outcomes for children of all abilities and backgrounds, enabling every pupil to achieve their potential, gain confidence, experience success and build independence, preparing them exceptionally well for the next stage in their education and for future well-being.

Key features of the school, in keeping with our vision and ethos, will be:

*Clarity of shared vision* – a set of key beliefs upon which all the school does is based. Children must be Literate and Numerate in order that they can function and learn effectively beyond primary education and in the wider world; we must teach them to think creatively, morally and problem solve. We must develop self-esteem and a positive self-image amongst all members of the school community.

*Inclusive* – Castle Hill will always be a fully inclusive school admitting pupils of all abilities and from all backgrounds.

*Excellent conduct* – Good behaviour is vital to teaching and learning. Our teaching and support staff will set and demand high standards of behaviour, recognising and rewarding pupils who work well and let other pupils get on undisturbed by a variety of means.

*Pupil well-being* – the school team will work with teachers and support staff and provide the stable framework of emotional support pupils need to take the risks needed to learn effectively in a supportive social environment. We will prioritise safeguarding and well-being considerations in everything we do, from safe recruitment of appropriate staff to the nature of every interaction between staff and pupils. We will promote equality of opportunity as required by the Equality Act 2010.

*An effective targeted curriculum* – From Reception to Year 6, the school will offer a curriculum suitable for our inclusive intake that meets the needs of all pupils and

leads to high standards of academic and personal achievement. This will benefit from the high standard of outcomes and high quality processes developed at Castle Hill Primary School,

*Meeting pupils' needs* – the culture of the school will be that of teaching all pupils from where they are at, identifying the next steps in learning and delivering the highest quality lessons to ensure success. All staff will be able to ensure this process is an everyday aspect of what we do. In addition, the SENDCO will ensure we meet the SEND Code of Practice requirements and support pupils to allow those with specific learning needs to participate fully, learn and succeed - from the least able to the most gifted and talented pupil.

*Homework* – we will expect homework to be completed in line with clear expectations of PAWS (purposeful activities without school). Bug Club and Mathematics is available for all families to use at home. A homework club offers facilities to ensure that there is every opportunity for homework to be completed in accordance with national guidelines with pupils aged 4-11

*Maximising attendance* – Castle Hill insists on and support the highest levels of attendance by pupils. Our attendance officer will support us to operate a first day of absence calling procedure and follow up any absence patterns that occur as a result of close monitoring of attendance registers.

Attendance will be a key part of assemblies and a number of positive rewards and programmes will be put in place. In addition the EWO will work with families and our Family Support Advisor to ensure all families can understand the need for the highest possible attendance.

*An aspirational environment* –The promotion of a positive self-esteem must be a key factor in our school and Castle Hill aims to create hard-working, high-achieving pupils who strive for success in all they do. We will ensure that children have the opportunity to taste success and achievement in order that the positive attitude generated here will be transferred to other aspects of learning.

*Encouraging parental and community involvement* – Parents and carers of pupils will be encouraged to engage with the school in a number of ways. The school will make every effort to be open to parents, and will encourage them to use the school, integrating it into their routines. We aim to offer parent-friendly provision and by building close relationships from pre school onwards we will facilitate support for the school. Parents of our pupils will be consulted and informed about their children's achievements.

*Genuinely supportive pastoral care* – Pupils will receive pastoral care from their class teacher, SLT and TAs. In addition Castle Hill Primary School will work within the pastoral structures developed by us including Learning Mentor and a Family Support Advisor and SENDCO. In addition the skills developed through Packtypes training will be employed and expanded to ensure that we place a high priority on supporting pupil well-being.

*Teachers* – Outstanding teachers in Castle Hill will encourage and support pupils at every opportunity, this is vital as expectations of achievement are high. Recruiting and developing quality teachers is at the heart of our aims for success.

We aim to achieve excellent outcomes at the end of EYFS/Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 by developing and recruiting well-qualified teachers with the greatest potential, in order to sustain a high quality of teaching in lessons. Teachers will know where their pupils are in their academic and personal development, and understand what needs to happen to secure further outstanding progress. By developing excellent working relationships with relevant and appropriate schools and community groups we will help our pupils to go forward to enjoy future success in their education and in their working lives.

In terms of personal development we will cultivate responsibility, good conduct and pupil leadership, while embodying spiritual, moral, social and cultural learning experiences alongside personal learning and thinking skills support to develop educated, confident pupils willing and capable of making a positive contribution to their school and to society.

At all times the school will look to ensure that pupil achievement and progress is an everyday aspect of discussion, reflection and practise. It will ensure that at all times the school has a highly personalised approach to improvement and doesn't just blindly apply strategies and programmes.

### **Curriculum Statement**

Castle Hill Primary School will always provide pupils with high quality education provision by offering a broad and balanced curriculum with a focus on core subjects. This will meet the needs of all learners, fostering a love of learning, giving pupils the chance to experience success and thereby equipping them with the skills and attitudes needed to maximise progress in learning and to progress to secondary education. We are conscious that 3-

11 education sets the foundation for learning and achievement through to HE and beyond, as such we are determined that each pupil will achieve to the maximum of their potential.