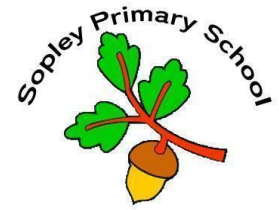


# THE FEDERATION OF BURLEY AND SOPLEY PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Monday 26th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Celebrating Our Shared Vision for the Future**

We are pleased to share an exciting next step in the journey of our Federation. Over recent months, we have been taking time to revisit our vision and values — celebrating the strengths of our schools while looking ahead to what the future can be for every child in our care.

Having a clear and shared vision is vital. It helps us move forward together with purpose and ensures that the decisions we make always reflect what matters most: supporting children to thrive, grow and succeed, both now and in the years to come.

A key part of this work has been listening carefully to our children. We asked them to imagine what the ‘best school in the world’ would look like — and even what the worst might be! Their thoughtful responses helped us reflect on the true purpose of school and how it prepares children for the future. One child insightfully noted that although having sweets every day might seem appealing, it would not help develop healthy habits for later life — a wonderful example of the maturity and understanding shown throughout these discussions.

Alongside this, staff and governors reflected on what we already see working well across our schools and what we would like to strengthen further. We are also very grateful to the parents who shared their views through our survey, helping us understand what you value most about education and school life.

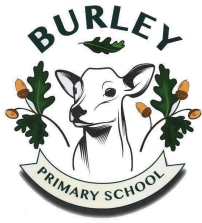
Bringing all of this together allowed us to refine our language, clarify our ambitions and develop a refreshed vision that we believe will continue to move our Federation forward. We also reviewed our core values, ensuring we use them consistently across our schools to support children’s personal development and everyday experiences.

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We will be launching our refreshed vision and values with the children during the week beginning **23rd March**. At this time, staff will be working with children to explore what our values mean in practice and how they can be demonstrated through learning, behaviour and relationships at school. Over the coming months, we will also share how our vision guides the decisions we make as a Federation and shapes the curriculum we offer.

**We are enormously proud of the collaborative work that has shaped this vision and look forward to the next chapter of our Federation, working in partnership with families to support every child to be the best they can be.**

## **Vision and Values**

*Together, we nurture a love of learning that celebrates the wonder of childhood and prepares every child for the future.*

We develop environments that support learning, where creativity, critical thinking, and resilience flourish. Our schools promote empathy, celebrate diversity, encourage children to respect differences and take responsibility for themselves and their communities.

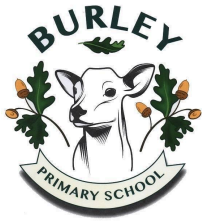
By embracing the wider world and fostering strong, collaborative relationships between our schools, we build a forward-thinking community with high expectations for all. We empower children to think independently, stay safe, and grow into confident, compassionate individuals ready to thrive in an ever-changing world.

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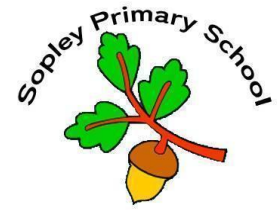
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## Responsibility

“Good for me, good for you, good for everyone”

Being responsible involves thinking about ourselves and also thinking about how our actions can affect others. Taking responsibility is part of growing independence. This starts from hanging up our coat and being honest when things have gone wrong, to thinking about how we can make a positive difference in our school and beyond. All children in our school are supported with an understanding of growing responsibility, through being given achievable tasks to complete and also taking on roles within the school. Through this, we seek to build children who take pride in all aspects of their conduct, beyond just their learning.

Stories that help us to understand Responsibility include:

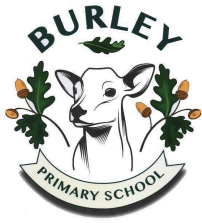


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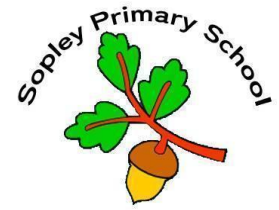
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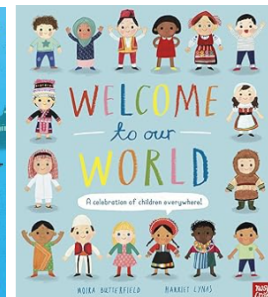
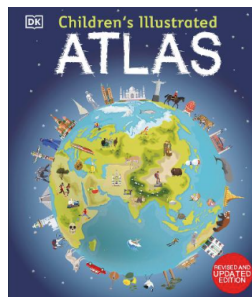
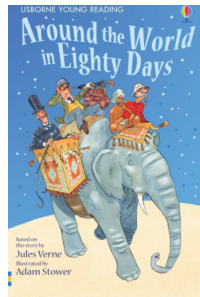


## Exploration

“Being curious, thinking and looking to solve problems”.

Exploration means creating an environment where curiosity is encouraged and every child feels safe to ask questions, try new ideas, and discover the world around them. For our youngest learners, this might look like hands-on play, experimenting with colors, shapes, and sounds, or investigating nature in the school garden. For older children, exploration can involve researching topics of interest, solving real-world problems, and working collaboratively on creative projects. Across all ages, it's about fostering a sense of wonder, interest, trial and error, talking and sharing ideas, agreeing and disagreeing and confidence to learn through discovery.

Stories that help us to understand Exploration include:

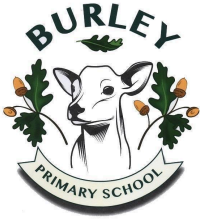


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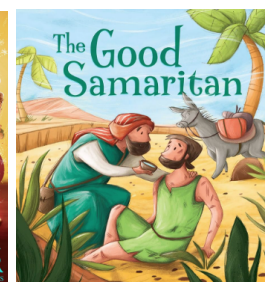
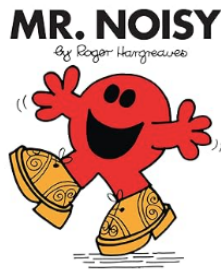
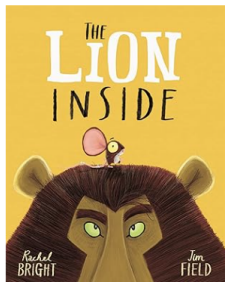


## Compassion

“Walking in someone else’s shoes”.

Compassion is caring about someone else’s feelings and trying our best to understand how others might be feeling, and offering to help that person. We can show that we are kind and caring by doing acts of kindness for anyone, friends, family or even people we may never meet. We show ‘Random acts of kindness’. We support charities. We try to be kind to everyone even if we are not friends or we don’t always get along. We try to put ourselves ‘in others’ shoes’ and think about how they might be feeling. We talk to people about how they are feeling and we offer help to those who might need it.

Stories that help us to understand Compassion include:

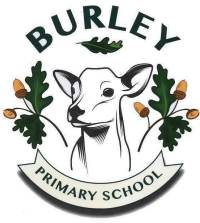


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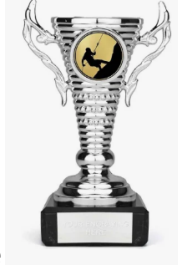
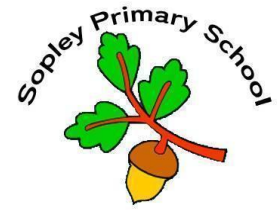
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## Resilience

“Knowing how to react, respond, recover and retry.”

Resilience is about building skills and strategies to recognise how we react in different situations, building a bank of helpful responses, developing techniques to recover from challenges and being brave enough to give things another go. At our schools, we promote the narrative of ‘yet’ (I can’t do it...yet) and also support children in recognising uncomfortable feelings and understanding how these are normal for everyone. We teach about forgiveness and also about ‘moving forwards’ when times are challenging.

Stories that help us to understand Resilience include:



Kind regards,  
Mr Mathew Bowen  
Executive Headteacher  
The Federation of Burley and Sopley Primary Schools.

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