

BRITISH VALUES



PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

BRITISH VALUES & PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

The Department for Education (DfE) has reinforced the need:

“To create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”

These values underpin everything we do in our school. They are not simply taught – they are lived, modelled and celebrated every day.

This leaflet explains the five British Values and the nine Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. It is designed for KS3 and KS4 students and their parents/carers, with clear examples of how these apply in everyday school life.

In line with the Equality Act 2010, we are committed to ensuring that no individual, experiences discrimination, harassment or disadvantage.

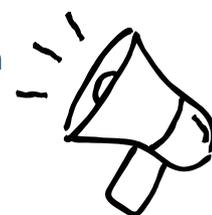
We actively promote respect and understanding of the nine protected characteristics.



Tip: Your voice matters. If something isn't fair or safe, talk to a trusted adult or use the school's reporting system.

If you see or experience bullying or discrimination:

- 1) Tell a trusted adult (Tutor, Head of Year, Safeguarding Lead)**
- 2) Use the school's reporting system or email the pastoral team**



BRITISH VALUES

DEMOCRACY

Everyone has a voice. In school this includes student council elections, voting activities, and debates. Students also learn to present arguments and listen respectfully.

Why it matters: You learn how decisions are made fairly and how to influence change positively.

THE RULE OF LAW



Rules keep us safe. This includes behaviour policies, online safety, and understanding consequences.

Children are introduced to the rules of the school and their individual classrooms. They learn why these rules exist, how they help everyone, and the role they play in keeping the school a safe and happy place.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

Pupils are encouraged to make safe, responsible choices, from selecting subjects and clubs to expressing their views respectfully.

Online safety guidance and leadership opportunities help them develop confidence, self-awareness, and responsibility.

MUTUAL RESPECT



Pupils are encouraged to treat others kindly and listen carefully, even when they disagree. By working together, listening in classrooms and corridors, respecting personal boundaries, and looking after school property, helps to create a welcoming and positive school environment.

TOLERANCE OF DIFFERENT FAITHS & BELIEFS

We celebrate different faiths and cultures through lessons, assemblies, and special events. Pupils learn from each other, challenge stereotypes, and explore diversity in RE and PSHE, creating a respectful and inclusive school community.

PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS



AGE



DISABILITY



GENDER
REASSIGNMENT



MARRIAGE AND CIVIL
PARTNERSHIP



PREGNANCY AND
MATERNITY



RACE



RELIGION OR
BELIEF



SEX



SEXUAL
ORIENTATION

Online conduct (applies on and off site):

- No hate speech, harassment or sharing private images
- Use privacy settings; report and block abusive content

PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Age	Treating someone unfairly because they are younger or older is not allowed
Disability	Reasonable adjustments (e.g., lift access, extra time) support equal participation.
Gender reassignment	Respect names/pronouns and privacy; bullying is never acceptable.
Marriage and civil partnership	Staff and older students (e.g., in sixth form) must not be discriminated against.
Pregnancy and maternity	All individuals on site are supported to remain safe during pregnancy and maternity.
Race	Racism and racist language are banned; curriculum includes diverse perspectives.
Religion or belief	Respect for prayer, dietary needs and religious dress; no harassment.
Sex	No sexism; equal access to subjects, sport and leadership.
Sexual orientation	Homophobic/biphobic language is unacceptable; everyone is included.

Your Rights & Responsibilities

We are committed to creating a fair and inclusive environment where every member of our community feels valued. In practice, this means:

- Balanced seating plans and group work that encourage cooperation and fairness
 - A clear anti-bullying policy supported by restorative conversations
 - An inclusive curriculum featuring diverse authors, cultures and perspectives
 - Reasonable adjustments for SEND and medical needs
 - Promoting respectful language and challenging stereotypes or unkind behaviour immediately
- Through these actions, we ensure equality is not just a policy — it is part of everyday school life.

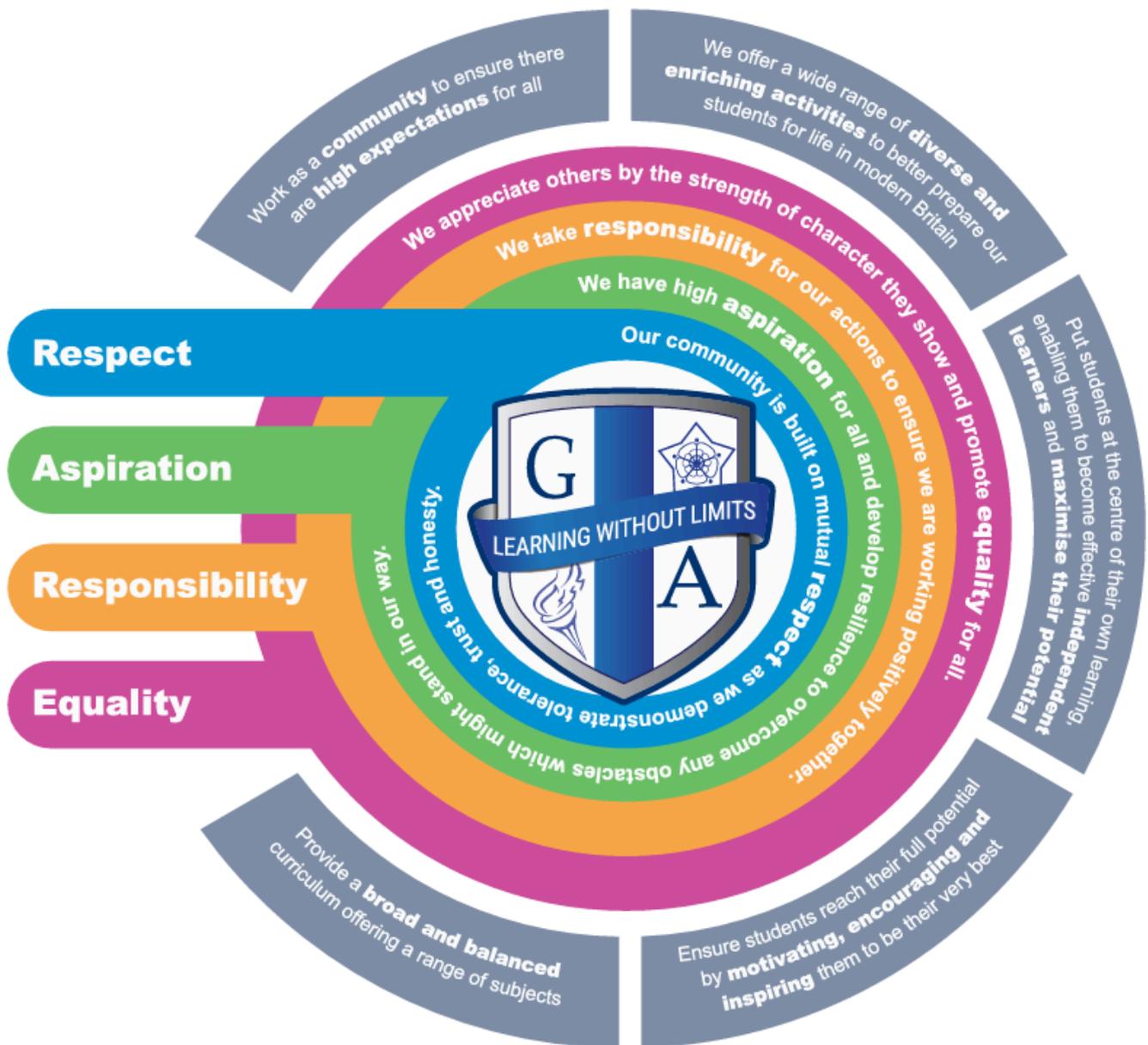
Students

You have the right to feel safe, respected and included. In return, you are expected to follow school rules, use respectful language, and speak to a trusted adult if you have concerns.

Parents and Carers

You can expect fair treatment, open communication and a supportive partnership with the school. We ask that you model respectful discussion, support school policies, and contact us if something does not feel right so we can work together positively.

GUILSBOROUGH ACADEMY VALUES



Our school is built on a strong foundation of shared values that guide everything we do. We show respect by treating one another with kindness, understanding, and consideration, celebrating the diverse voices within our community. We nurture aspiration by encouraging every individual to aim high, believe in their potential, and strive for excellence in all areas of learning and life. Through responsibility, we empower our students to take ownership of their actions, contribute positively to their environment, and grow into thoughtful, dependable citizens. Above all, we champion equality, ensuring that everyone is valued, included, and given the opportunity to succeed, regardless of their background. Together, these values create a supportive and inspiring environment where every learner can thrive.