## Valuing Difference Protected Characteristics

At our school, we are committed to promoting equality, diversity, and respect for all. The **Protected Characteristics**, as outlined in the Equality Act 2010, are embedded throughout our curriculum and wider school life to ensure every child feels valued and included. These characteristics include:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

We integrate these principles through:

## Hero's Curriculum

Our bespoke Hero's Curriculum celebrates individuality and encourages pupils to understand and respect differences. Through thematic learning and character education, children explore values such as kindness, resilience, and fairness.

## Reading and Story Opportunities

High-quality texts and stories are carefully chosen to reflect diversity and challenge stereotypes. These opportunities allow pupils to see themselves represented and learn about others' experiences, fostering empathy and inclusion.

## Learning for Life Curriculum

This includes subjects such as SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social, and Cultural development), British Values, RHE (Relationships and Health Education), and PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic education). These areas explicitly teach respect, equality, and understanding of protected characteristics, preparing pupils to thrive in modern Britain.

Through these approaches, we ensure that equality and respect are not just taught but lived every day in our school community.