



### School of Sanctuary Award

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you about the School of Sanctuary Award that we are currently working towards. After reading the information below, I am sure you will all agree that this will benefit our school community.

### What is a School of Sanctuary?

A School of Sanctuary is a school that is committed to being a safe and welcoming place for those seeking sanctuary. It is a space for those whose lives were in danger in their own country, who have trouble at home or are just looking for a space where they can feel safe. A School of Sanctuary is a school that helps its students, staff and wider community understand what it means to be seeking sanctuary and to extend a welcome to everyone as equal, valued members of the school community. It is a school that is proud to be a place of safety and inclusion for all. Schools of Sanctuary is an initiative which aims to:

- Promote positive attitudes within schools and their communities around people seeking sanctuary.
- Support schools to take positive steps and to be proud of being places of safety and inclusion for all.

### Why do we want to become a School of Sanctuary?

- It creates a sense of safety and inclusion that is beneficial to all members of the school community.
- Provides learning opportunities about what it means to seek sanctuary and to dispel some negative myths as well as wider issues of human rights and social justice.
- Strengthens race equality and community cohesion in school.
- Increase student voice and promote active citizenship.
- Strengthens the school to achieve high inclusion standards and improves the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural provision offered to pupils.

### How do we become a School of Sanctuary?

There are three simple principles to being a School of Sanctuary:

1. **Learn** about what it means to be seeking sanctuary.
2. **Take** positive action to embed concepts of welcome, safety and inclusion within our school and the wider community.
3. **Share** our vision and achievements – and be proud of them!

### Want to know more?

If you would like to know more about School of Sanctuary, please contact the school office and ask to speak with Mrs Ashton.

