

Ethos

Inspiring Interaction and Learning

Our aim is that every child will enjoy school and develop a love of learning, taking risks and achieving beyond our high expectations for them.

Vision



Independence

Independence

Determined, Motivated,
Creative, Confident



Community

Community

Engaged, Adventurous,
Inspired, Aware



Communication

Communication

Enthusiastic, Empowered,
Focused, Spontaneous



Well being

Wellbeing

Positive, Resilient,
Connected,
Safe and Secure



This is underpinned by our Curriculum Intent

Curriculum Intent

The four pillars of our curriculum are **Communication**, **Independence**, **Community** and **Wellbeing**. Our focus upon these leads to a curriculum which teaches purposeful and lifelong learning, knowledge and skills; enabling **Inspiring Interaction** in all that we do.

Independence

Our curriculum educates students for the **life** they aspire to lead. For **safety**, **wellbeing** and the ability to inform their own **choices** in life. This will be achieved by providing opportunities in developing effective **communication**; **physical development** of skills, use of **technology** and providing **problem solving** challenges.

Community

Our curriculum aims to develop students to **challenge** and **drive** change in the community. They will learn through the magnificent richness of experiences North Devon offers; **enabling** them to feel valued **contributors** and **leaders** in their community, and gaining an appreciation of local, national and international life.



Communication

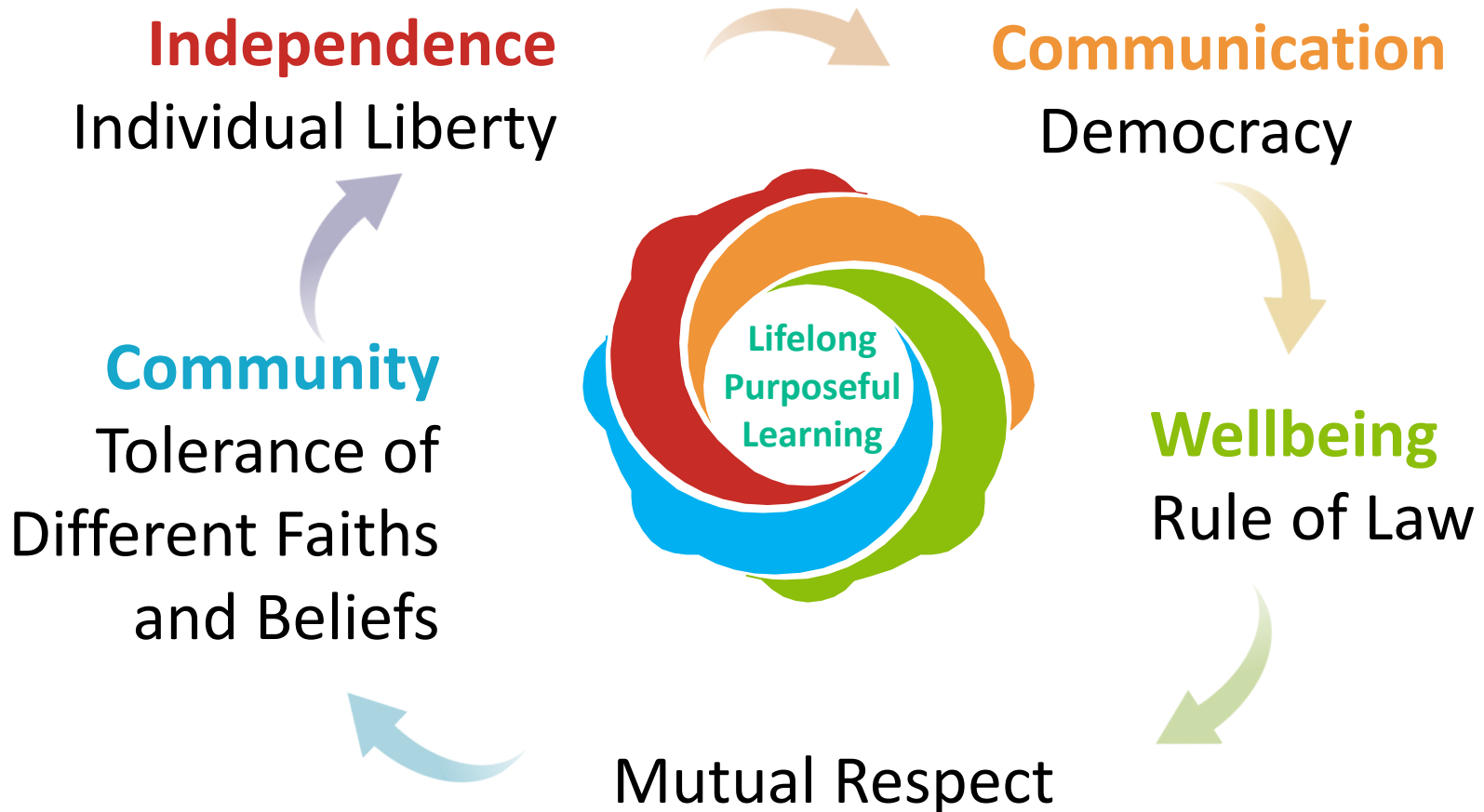
Our curriculum is designed to give pupils a **confident voice** to improve the quality of every part of their life. This means being **listened to**, **heard** and **understood** in whatever form a pupil chooses to communicate. We recognise that communication is fundamental in creating a human **connection** and the tool for **unlocking** the wider world.

Wellbeing

Our curriculum fosters **resilience**, **self-esteem** and promotes good **mental health**. Preparing pupils to make **positive choices**; **staying safe** within their community and the environment. We are determined to **nurture** pupils to grow the knowledge and skills to establish happy healthy **relationships** with peers, family and the wider community. **Empowering** them to **confidently** present the best of themselves to the world.

British Values

We identify British values as **Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect, Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs**



Democracy

The ability to understand and communicate are the most important areas of learning. We ensure that students are given a voice to communicate through a total communication approach. This communication could be using words, Makaton signing, objects, photographs, pictures, touch cues, eye pointing, body language or an Augmentative and Alternative communication (AAC) device.

Students are given opportunities and actively encouraged to make choices about the things that are important to them.

We show that we support democracy and liberty by seeing, hearing, and understanding. These are also the values of Devon's ' *Champions for Change* ' of which we are an active contributor.

The school council plays an important role within the school helping to make choices and advocate on behalf of all students. The school council panel is integral to every interview process.

Rule of Law

We have high aspirations for the behaviour of all students at Pathfield school.

Students are taught to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions and we recognise that some students can understand the connection between actions and consequences. However, for others behaviour may be a primary form of communication and this behaviour may challenge us at times. In order to support students to manage their behaviour successfully the staff are committed to providing a consistent and predictable environment within the school and the community. Our environment enables students to feel safe and secure and this in turn promotes the optimum conditions for learning to take place. The use of therapeutic and Thrive inventions helps to support students and inform our practice.

The PSHE curriculum covers a range of topics designed to teach students the knowledge to keep themselves safe, helping them to make decisions and choices that fit within the law and community expectations.

Individual Liberty

We encourage students to become good and valued citizens. We do this by supporting them to become as independent as possible, and by teaching them about their rights and responsibilities. We believe that everyone has the right to say yes or no to ideas or activities, and that learning to do things independently is an important part of learning to understand yourself. We also support others by participating in charitable events such as Red Nose Day, Comic Relief, and Children in Need. We believe that creating a caring and helpful environment can boost and nurture a healthy self-esteem.

Mutual Respect

We promote inclusion for all students by ensuring that they have access to the activities, settings, and locations that are appropriate to their individual needs. We do this by working with a range of people, including students from other schools such as the Buddy Readers programme with Pilton Bluecoats and Pilton College, running the weekly café in the local library and the Memory café once a month supporting those living with dementia or memory problems. We also personalise the curriculum for each student and plan for them to transition into different settings, such as going into the community to participate in sports events e.g. the Sentient Swimming Gala, Pilton Mile and community events e.g. Barnstaple Pride Event.

The staff work closely with parents carers and other professionals to ensure that the students at Pathfield school are happy, well cared for and enabled to learn the skills they need to live a fulfilling life as part of their community.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We are part of a school and a local community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.

Cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum and we place great emphasis on providing encounters and participation in events and celebrations to broaden all students' experiences and awareness of others.

Our assemblies help all students to find out about themselves and others linking their lives to communities in which they belong the themes cover areas such as friendship, helping others and celebrations from a range of faiths and world events. This links closely with our RE curriculum.

Students are encouraged to experience British culture through our curriculum themes and we foster close links with our local community. As a school we take part in sporting activities which helps instil fair play and engender a team spirit.

Cultural Capital

At Pathfield School the core foundation of all our work is to enable each pupil to develop the skills and knowledge they need to live the most enjoyable fulfilling and independent life as possible. In order to do this the curriculum offer is as broad and enriching as possible. Within the curriculum the teachers plan creatively to engage all students. Students are given extensive opportunities to use their senses and develop their engagement and creativity.

The curriculum offer is enhanced with visits within the community and in school experiences. Students have different experiences depending on their needs and interests. The North Devon Coast is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) that includes a UNESCO world Biosphere Reserve (Braunton Burrows) and recently became a World Surfing Reserve. In addition to this the National Parks of Exmoor and Dartmoor are close by. As a consequence our students have the opportunity to access this rich local environment through our 'Adventure Curriculum' which includes, The Jubilee Challenge on Dartmoor, surfing experiences, residential stays at the Calvert trust on Exmoor and work with the Braunton Countryside Centre.