

29.01.2024 Whole School Assembly: The Highfield Community. It is our **diversity** that makes us **special**.

Thinking time whilst coming into assembly: What does being a Highfielder mean to you?



The children thought about what being a Highfielder meant to them. What makes this school special? The children discussed their ideas in pairs and then fed back to me.

I then asked the children, 'Who are we?'. They fed back on who they believed we were and what our community looked like. I explained that we have 421 children and 51 staff as well as all the parents and carers who make up Highfield and they are all proud Highfielders.



Our diversity is our strength. But what does *diversity* mean? The children all gave their answers on what diversity meant to them and we compared their list with mine on the whiteboard. Some of the great answers included:

- Race
- Religion
- Age
- Gender
- Opinions
- Talents
- Language
- Nationality
- Ethnicity

It is these differences that make us a special school. We celebrate them. We also discussed how they are linked to both British Values and the Protected Characteristics.



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I then asked how many languages were spoken in the Highfield community? It is in fact 28! I asked the same about Nationality. At Highfield there are 33 different nationalities which makes us a truly international community and something we benefit greatly from. We respect the differences between us, so:

How do we show this respect?

The children responded with some great answers about how we show respect for all these differences. It links carefully to our behaviour motto: Ready, Respectful, Safe. That is what makes us special. Highfield is a special place to be.

