

Headteacher's assembly 24<sup>th</sup> Nov 2025

## The Protected Characteristics: Different Ability

Thinking time whilst the children enter assembly:

There are **9 Protected Characteristics**.

Can you remember them?



Highfield is an ***inclusive*** school.

The children were asked to think about what ***inclusive*** might mean. We shared our ideas and used the word ***included*** as a starting point. We then looked at the following definition:

Everyone is valued, respected, and have equal opportunities, regardless of their differences.



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We then looked at one particular protected characteristic together:



## Different Ability

**Let's not call it disability, let's think about different abilities.**

**What disabilities do we know?** We shared our knowledge on disabilities we are aware of. But I asked the children to think of them as different abilities, because we are all different after all. Some are also super powers! I then asked the children to think about if all ability was visible? This required some deep thinking. We talked together about ability in different subjects, games and talents. We also thought about different abilities which were not always immediately visible and obvious; autism, hearing impairment, dyslexia, thinking speeds were great examples.

We are



## of Different Ability

Being respectful is part of our behaviour motto, Ready, Respectful, Safe. To conclude, we thought about how we show respect. It isn't about being tolerant, it is more than that, it is about showing understanding, learning about different ability and most of all, about embracing it.

Highfield is an inclusive school and we all have different abilities.