

# Newtownards Model Primary School Ethos

## Mission Statement

Working as a team within a respectful, safe, caring and secure environment we will develop the intellectual, physical, moral and creative abilities of all our pupils, so that each child becomes responsible for their own learning and develops to their full potential.

August 2012

The following statements set out our ethos:

- The school will have a warm, secure and friendly atmosphere for all who work within it and for visitors. We will work to provide an environment in which children will feel both safe and happy, enabling them to develop effectively.
- Respect, is at the forefront of all we do in Newtownards Model Primary School. Respect for self, for others, for the community, for property and for the environment is at the core of all our teaching and learning.
- We believe in 'rounding' our children and to this extent, the curriculum should be broad, balanced, coherent and relevant. The children should be exposed to a range of cultural, musical, historical and meaningful, real experiences, inside and outside the classroom.
- Our professional, caring staff have high expectations of pupils and the children are always encouraged to fulfil their potential as independent learners.
- The school and its governors are strongly committed to ensuring the physical and mental health of all pupils. In support of this commitment, the school will encourage pupils to maintain a healthy lifestyle, taking exercise and having a healthy diet. We support these aims by providing a rich variety of curricular and extra curricular activities, which provide both breadth of experience and opportunities for personal/social development. Healthy eating is also encouraged through our Healthy Eating Programme.
- An important emphasis is placed upon the child's personal development. Self-discipline, self-esteem and self-motivation are encouraged. Pupils should be prepared to play an active role both in the school and wider community by developing sensitivity to the needs and feelings of others regardless of differences.
- We will help pupils develop personal, spiritual and moral values, an understanding of religious beliefs, a tolerance for others and their ways of life.
- We will aim to promote equal opportunities for all children.
- We aim to raise achievement through active independent learning and the vital support of parents.

May 2013