



Rush Green Primary School
Dagenham Road
ROMFORD, Essex RM7 0TL

Tele: 020 8270 4940

Fax: 020 8270 4941

Email: office.rushgreen@bdcs.org.uk

Web: www.rushgreenprimary.org.uk

*'Education is the most powerful
weapon to change the World.'* Nelson
Mandela

'When you know better you do better.'
Maya Angelou

Dear Parent/Guardian,

At Rush Green we continuously aim to promote the social, moral, spiritual and cultural (SMSC) development of all of the pupils within our school. As part of this aim, we strive to develop the children's sense of tolerance.

Next week we will be conducting assemblies, for years 1-6, to discuss the theme of tolerance. Within this assembly, we will discuss what tolerance means and why it is important. We will develop the idea of being tolerant of other people's age, race, religion, gender and opinions.

As part of the government agenda for SMSC and PSHE we will discuss the concept of racism. The pupils are aware that racist remarks are not acceptable within our school community. This is a behaviour which is on the 'red' card for Stay on Green. Please see below for the slide which will be used to discuss racism.

HANDS UP IF...

- You have heard the word 'racism' before; what does it mean?
- Would you say racist things to someone?
- If you use the colour of someone's skin or where they are from to hurt a person, you are being INTOLERANT.
- In Rush Green, racism is **RED** behaviour!

It is also a requirement that we discuss the idea of homophobic remarks. At Rush Green, it is not part of our curriculum to teach the pupils about sexual orientation. However, it is our duty to develop the children morally by teaching them about tolerance. We will



‘Strive to Succeed’

Rush Green Primary School
Dagenham Road
ROMFORD, Essex RM7 0TL

Tele: 020 8270 4940

Fax: 020 8270 4941

Email: office.rushgreen@bdcs.org.uk

Web: www.rushgreenprimary.org.uk

*‘Education is the most powerful
weapon to change the World.’ Nelson
Mandela*

*‘When you know better you do better.’
Maya Angelou*

inform the children what ‘gay’ means in line with our SRE curriculum so that they can understand why they should not be using this word in a derogatory way. To do this, we will explain that all families are different (this is what the children learn during our Sex, Relationship Education week). We will explain that some families can have two mums or two dads. If this is the case, then it means that those people are gay. We will discuss with the children if it is acceptable to be nasty to people because they are different to us.

We will then explain that the word ‘gay’, as an insult to others, will not be tolerated at our school. Therefore, any children who use it will end up on red. In the same way that they would do if they used racist or sexist remarks to insult other children. Please see below for the slide that will be used in the assembly to inform the pupils that ‘homophobic remarks’ has now been added to the ‘red’ card for Stay on Green.

HANDS UP IF...

- You have heard the word ‘gay’ before.
- This is a word that children have been using to insult other children in our community. If you use this word to hurt people, you are being INTOLERANT.
- When this word is used in a negative way it is called being ‘homophobic’.
- In Rush Green, homophobic language is **RED** behaviour – this has been added to the Stay on Green behaviour cards in your class.

Throughout the year, the children will be reminded of the school’s behaviour expectations. They will be encouraged to develop their tolerance and respect for others through the use of our SMSC and PSHE curriculum.

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs Barnes