

The Alive Descriptions

In each section the first sentence describes the Alive theme 'in essence'; the subsequent paragraph describes what that might look like. These are not definitive lists: each member of our community might engage with any or all of the themes in a different way and to a greater or lesser extent.

We value Faith: Everything that we do is shaped by what we believe. What we believe is at the heart of everything that we say, think or do.

I value the role played by faith in shaping ourselves, our school, our society, and our world. I have a personal faith that is important to me. I try to learn more about my faith and consistently put my beliefs into action. I recognise the importance of God in my life and spend time in prayer/meditation, reading and worship with other believers in order to grow in my faith OR I can explain why I don't have a religious faith and recognise and respect the faith of others OR I can explain why I am not sure whether there is a God or not and I seek to understand this more as I recognise that others have a faith that they value.

I am interested in and actively find out about the Christian faith and how it has shaped our school, our society, and our world. I value and promote Jesus' message of love, hope, joy, forgiveness, and faith. I respect and value the worship we share as a school and as tutor groups and I take part fully *or* make sure that I enable others to take part in a meaningful way.

I have engaged with a diverse range of religious and non-religious worldviews to understand the benefits and challenges of living together in a multi-faith society and a multi-cultural world. More than simply tolerating other faiths, I am curious about all faiths and actively try to understand why others hold views that are different to mine, and I work at strengthening relationships with those who do not share my faith as well as those who do.

We value Ourselves: I know my own value as a unique person – I strive to stay healthy and safe.

I value myself and have respect for myself and other people. I have confidence in who I am. I am not afraid to express myself. I can demonstrate how I have fulfilled my potential in many areas of my school life. I am not afraid to be myself and be who I am around other people. I take pride in myself and look after my body. Because I value myself, I value other people. I am not arrogant, selfish, or big headed. I understand the dangers of alcohol, tobacco and drugs and the importance of diet, sleep, and exercise. I participate in PE lessons which focus on the development of a "healthy me". I know the importance of good mental health and if I am struggling with how I feel about myself, I know who I can go to talk to about it and ask for help. I know my life has purpose. I come to lessons expecting to make good progress in my learning.

We value Trust and Truth: I am honest and trustworthy, and I seek to find out what is true.

I don't tell lies and I don't gossip, I keep my friends' secrets and promises, and I am faithful. Other people can rely on me and come to me when they are in need. I am fair. I place trust in myself. I like the truth be told to me and value what others say. If people do trust each other, it helps them to make good friendships and be respected. "The truth will set you free" (Jesus Christ – John 8:32).

I understand about the importance of staying safe online and when to be careful about whom I trust – not assuming that people online are who they say they are – I know how to report a problem in school if I have a concern about online safety. I understand the problem of "fake news" and the importance of asking questions and checking facts and sources.

We value Justice and Respect: I strive for fairness and can challenge injustice appropriately.

I can **identify** situations within – and beyond – my own experience which are unjust and explain why they are unfair and how to put them right. I **do** whatever is appropriate and within my power to set them right, whilst showing that I am able to **accept** other people's understanding of these situations and act in a way which values the viewpoints and lived experiences of other people within and beyond our community.

I am developing my knowledge of how oppressed groups have overcome injustice through the struggle for equal rights for people of colour, women, and the LGBTQ+ community and I can reflect on how the fight for justice related to these issues continues to shape our world. I understand the dangers of extremism and the importance of democracy, rules and laws and individual freedom.

We value Diversity and Choice: I celebrate and respect difference.

I appreciate and respect all cultures, sexualities, genders, and ethnicities and I am keen to learn about other cultures both in the past and today. More than just tolerant, I believe that celebrating our differences as well as our common interests helps unite and educate us and by understanding another perspective, I will broaden my own.

I know we all have different strengths, and I will use my time in school to discover those strengths and start to work out what my unique contribution to the world might be. I realise that my future choices are based on wise choices now and I value the options available to be in terms of subjects and course types.

I choose to value the diversity of every member of our school community. I know that each student is unique. I understand what is meant by neurodiversity. I am alert to any examples of prejudice both in my own actions and the actions of others I understand the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination and I know how to report this in my school. I believe that everyone should feel safe and welcome in our school and make sure that my actions support this.

We are Creative: I can find fresh ways of doing, seeing, and making things.

I am at my most creative when I am inspired to produce imaginative work and to find many solutions to the challenges I am set.

Being creative involves being imaginative; being inspired; being inspiring; problem-solving; having new ideas; being able to communicate ideas; original thought; exploring new ideas with others.

I am becoming visually literate and can explore the habits of creativity by understanding the visual senses, thoughts, and actions of the world around us through the disciplines of art. I engage with a wide variety of genres and styles of music and am developing the techniques and skills that enable me to create, play, analyse and critically listen to music.

We are Resilient: I persevere and don't give up.

I have the ability to cope with significant difficulty. I stay positive even when I am struggling. I look for opportunities in difficult situations. I have the power to recover and try again and this experience makes me stronger. When things go wrong, I try to learn from it. When I don't meet my targets, I find out what to do to improve and come up with lots of ideas. I use others to help me to improve. I am able to hold out against factors that are preventing me from achieving my goals, including people who are standing in my way. I support others to stay positive by helping them to see opportunities when they are struggling.

We are Organised: I arrive at School and to lessons on time, prepared for learning. I know what I am aiming for and the steps that I need to take to get there.

I pack my bag the night before school, so I have everything that I need ready for the following day. I have a good night's sleep. In the morning I make sure that I leave enough time to get to school. Throughout the day, I get to my lessons on time with the equipment that I need. I know how to access my homework on Edulink, and I plan my time so that I get all my homework done without having to rush it. I take a positive attitude to my work. I can use the planning skills that I learn in subjects like DT to help me to be more organised with my schoolwork.

We are Interdependent: I know I cannot do everything on my own. I know we need each other to achieve our best.

I can work well on my own and as part of a team and I can judge when to use each way of working. I am aware of my weaknesses and strengths. I can ask for help and offer help when I see that other people need it. I help sort out team problems, so we get the task done. I can lead and develop effective relationships so a group of people will work well together. I work hard to resolve conflict.

I seek to understand the world around me, I am learning about our local, national, and global communities and I understand for the need for environmental stewardship.

I know that relationships between people can be complicated, and I know the importance of understanding and developing healthy relationships as individuals and between communities. I know the importance of working together effectively and am developing my team working skills.

I give teachers and students the best chance to learn by listening to staff in silence; being a good listener; helping to create a calm environment and following instructions.

We are Forgiving: I realise that things can go wrong and that we do our best to put them right.

I am able to wipe the slate clean when someone asks and to give someone a second chance. I can let it go and not bear a grudge. If I have done wrong, I say sorry and mean it. I understand that forgiveness starts by saying sorry and trying not to do it again. It involves choosing to forget and that this takes time. Forgiveness is good for the person who has done wrong. Jesus is the perfect example of forgiveness.

We can Question: I am inquisitive, not willing to accept things at face value.

I am able to take ownership of my learning by controlling the direction and depth of the information obtained. 'I don't get it' becomes: What do I need to do to move on? How do these pieces of information relate to each other? Why does this work? Where could I find the answer to my question?

I use what I learn in school to ask questions about the world around me and I try and ask or answer questions in every lesson.

We can Review: I act on feedback and learn from my mistakes I want to achieve my academic potential by being thoroughly prepared for my exams.

I think about what I have done, how I can improve and what I need to do to make sure that I continue to make progress. I apply this to my life within school and beyond. I know my goals and I value peer review and coaching both to help me and to help others. I respond positively to helpful feedback from my peers and my teachers. I can give sensitive feedback to others and receive feedback with good grace. I use my knowledge and skills from previous lessons in my learning.

I can find effective ways to learn and recall key facts and concepts and I can put together revision materials that help me to revise effectively. I use my revision time efficiently and understand how to

take frequent breaks to help my concentration. I know my strengths and weaknesses. I can work with others in a way that helps us revise thoroughly. I can use internet websites to help me revise.
We can Communicate: It's good to talk – and, better still, to be understood.

I can speak confidently, clearly, and appropriately. I always think about what I am going to say before I say it. I understand how to use non-verbal methods of communication effectively. I am a good listener. When I take part in a discussion, I try and build upon other people's points of view.

I can communicate convincingly, confidently, and competently in English and at least one other language. I appreciate the power of the written and spoken word and I am developing increasing intercultural awareness.

I am developing my vocabulary to include a range of specialist and technical terms in a variety of subjects which both demonstrate and develop my understanding.

When I communicate in writing I use the PROUD standards to make my work easy to understand.

If I feel that I am not being understood, I try and put myself in the other person's position. I understand that there are lots of different ways to communicate, such as the written word, IT, phones, video, and audio media, and I can use these effectively and gauge my audience appropriately.

We can Research: I want to **find** the answer to every question.

- **Find** – I know how to use both the internet and the library to find relevant material. I am confident using a wide range of different types of visual, audio, and written sources to answer questions. I am able to select and reject information based on its relevance to the question I am answering. I am able to collect original data for myself.
- **Evaluate** – I understand that information needs to be handled critically. I understand how to use sources critically.
- **Judge** – whether the information gathered is sufficient – I am able to judge whether I have enough information.
- **Record** – I am able to record my research in ways that mean I am able to use it to answer the original question.

We can Contribute: I have a part to play in my school community and I value the contributions of others.

I believe that we all need to be the change we want to see in the world and every one of us has a contribution to make. I want to get involved and participate in school activities to make the most of my time in school and to learn extra skills that will be useful in whatever I choose to do in the future.

I want my future career and life choices to be ones that will impact society in a positive way. I will leave school able to write a CV and personal statement having had work experience and have a clear plan for my next steps in education or employment. I am planning ahead, and making choices now that will ensure I have the career I want in the future.

I am learning how to solve problems creatively and I will use these problem-solving skills to help me make a valuable contribution to society.

I will be courageous in contributing to our community, leading by example with confidence and grace.