



# SIBFORD SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2020

## Our core purpose

Sibford School exists to educate children and young people in accordance with the principles of the Religious Society of Friends. The school's founding vision is still apparent in its willingness to offer a mainstream education to those who could benefit from it but who might not otherwise have access to it. The school also offers the use of its facilities and amenities to the wider community for adult education, community development and the advancement of amateur sport and recreation.

## Our Values

Everything we do at Sibford School is underpinned by values that are central to Quaker work and witness and by our commitment to develop the '3 Rs' of respect, resilience and relationships.

**EQUALITY:** Friends believe in the equality and worth of all human beings of whatever sex, race, class, age, sexual orientation, or ability.

**PEACE:** Friends' witness to peace means not only running the school without violence or coercion, but producing young people who will feel a concern to challenge injustice and to reduce the level of violence in the world and who will have the imagination to find alternative responses to conflict.

**SIMPLICITY:** We believe that a simple life can be a good life, and that we need to live within our means.

**SUSTAINABILITY:** Friends in Britain are committed to becoming a low-carbon, sustainable community. We believe that at Sibford we can play our part in that.

**SERVICE:** We believe that introducing young people to making common cause and to offering service to others in their community is an important part of their education for life.

**RESPECT:** Our school respects every pupil as an individual. Sibford tries to teach each one what she or he needs to learn, to draw out his or her unique talents, and to enable each one to discover her or his own purpose in life. We have found that periods of silence in Meeting for Worship are valuable opportunities for reflection and affirmation of 'that of God' within.

**RESILIENCE:** We accept that we are all human and that we all have weaknesses as well as strengths. We believe that children have the right to make mistakes and to learn from their failures as well as their successes. We do not always live up to our highest ideals. We believe that when we fall short we need to admit it, apologise to those affected, make amends, commit to learning from the mistake, determine not to repeat it, and move on. When others fail, we believe that we are asked to sustain our faith in them and to forgive freely, readily and unconditionally, without relaxing our standards or compromising ourselves.

**RELATIONSHIPS:** Quakers have always sought to speak the truth in love. Our school community is where we learn to create honest and caring connections with each other and with the wider world. Through cultivating empathic and responsive relationships, we develop the capacity to support each other – and to accept the support of others – on the journey through life.

## Our Aims

Our Quaker Ethos is expressed through the following aims and underpins our policies and practices:

- To create and maintain a culture in which all members of the school community can be themselves, celebrating difference and developing confidence, self-esteem and tolerance, by ensuring a secure setting in which all feel valued and respected.
- To enable every pupil to recognise and acknowledge his or her individual talents and to help each one realise his or her full potential.
- To meet the needs of our pupils, be they educational or pastoral.
- To develop in our pupils a thirst for lifelong learning and an active concern for their immediate environment and the wider community.
- To welcome parents into a partnership, embracing trust, understanding and mutual support.

### Our Vision

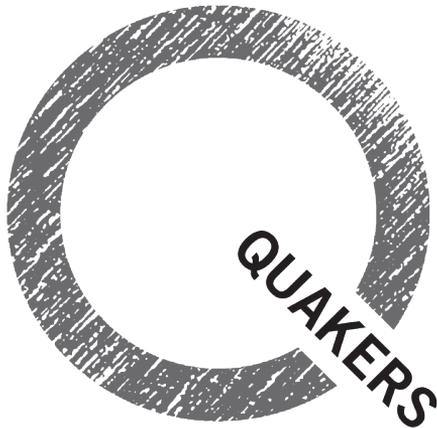
**'Sibford School - An outstanding Quaker education for the 21st Century'**

#### At Sibford school we expect:

- To provide a unique learning environment founded upon our Quaker ethos
- To provide outstanding pastoral care for all members of the school community.
- To provide a rich and varied curriculum which inspires and challenges all of our pupils within an adventurous, innovative and evolving learning community.
- To provide opportunities for all to develop their talents and to demonstrate a commitment to others, locally and globally.
- To maintain and develop the physical environment of the school in a sustainable, well planned and prioritised way, for our own use and for that of the community.
- To be a financially efficient, ethical and environmentally conscious school.

We know that, to realise this vision, Sibford School Committee will need:

- to provide the appropriate support and structures to accomplish our aims and to meet and overcome challenges and obstacles to our vision.
- to ask our School Leadership Team to develop appropriate action plans to bring about the fruition of these strategic objectives.
- to monitor and evaluate progress against these objectives at School Committee meetings and in our other contacts with the school. The School Leadership Team will use the strategic development plan framework to report to School Committee, School Life Sub-committee and Finance and Premises Sub-committee. This information will sit alongside the Head's report to School Committee, "Spotlight" reports, departmental presentations and the findings of school inspections, surveys and questionnaires.



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