**The Birmingham School’s Pledge**

Vision behind the Pledge

The pledge is a visual statement of intent and a practical activity that helps to underpin your school values and PSHE curriculum. It formally outlines the relationships you want to foster within your school and the wider community.

The pledge is not a standalone activity but is rather born out of the core principles and values you uphold as a school and it should be firmly embedded into your culture. The preparation lesson guides students through the importance of relationships and respect by exploring the concepts of dignity and acceptance and the consequences of people focussing on differences rather than on what we share in common.

The lesson plan has activities around bullying, which will support the work you have already done in the past. The pledge simply compiles it into a visual statement about the beliefs of the school community. You can choose to sign the pledge in rainbow colours if you wish, and use the resources that explore the history and significance of the rainbow flag to help address acceptance and equality of the LGBT community.

Signing the pledge at launch stage will be hugely powerful and motivating, knowing that other schools and organisations are also committing to the same values and beliefs – creating an atmosphere where the students can see that their actions are part of a much bigger process. This goes a long way to ensuring that these beliefs are upheld outside of the school gates and become part of our communities to make a Birmingham a safe and enjoyable place to grow up in.