



Wemms Ethos and Wemms Charter

September 2023

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Approved by: Chair of Trustees

Principal: Neil Bain

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Wemms Statement of Ethos

Wemms is a small, independent school that provide the unique and the extraordinary with a place to breathe easy, learn to respect who they are and the talents they have been born with. This school is for capable people, who have found it impossible to thrive in a formal mainstream environment.

The Key principles that underpin our vision are that all young people are entitled to a fulfilling education that develops their gifts and enables them to overcome their challenges. We expect to provide a holistic education that sees our students develop socially, morally and academically. Believing that education needs to catalyse all aspects of human growth, we seek to help the student understand their own unique learning style and gain the resilience to persevere when facing adversity.

We aim to offer our students the chance to engage in a full curriculum encompassing Maths, Stats, Triple Science, English Language and Literature, Humanities and MFL to exam standard. In addition, we offer subjects to feed the soul- music, art, drama, cooking, construction skills, supported by PE, PSHE, Citizenship and current affairs, and public speaking.

Wemms vision is that our students should graduate from Wemms Education Centre as well rounded, confident citizens of 21st Century Britain, with a strong commitment to society and to be the best human they are capable of being. Our students know that not everyone is a grade A academic in every aspect of the curriculum, but they also know that everyone can be a grade A human being.

Wemms strives to ensure its students have resilience, compassion, empathy, integrity, determination and grit. We expect them to be able to live independently, follow the career path of their choice and be guided by their own quiet sense of what is right and wrong. Academically our students will have a strong foundation on which to build their professional career and they will have a thirst for knowledge, independent study and progression. They will have had the opportunity to understand other cultures both by their study of Citizenship and PSHE and by the opportunity to visit other countries on school journeys.

We aim to ensure our students understand they are the architects of their own future, able to aspire to any goal that harnesses their skills academically and socially.

Not all birds are made to fly, not all Wemms Students will want to go to University. They must use their own gifts and follow a path that lets their souls fly. They should know how to laugh, how to express themselves clearly and how to question decisions that confuse them.

Our school is steeped in social experience that proves to students one doesn't know what one can achieve until one tries and it doesn't matter how far down a wrong road one had gone; one can always turn around and take a different route. Our students leave us willing to engage with all that life can offer them.

Wemms students measure their success in their social and academic development from their point of entry to their point of launching into the next phase of their development.

Wemms Charter and the Wemms Community

W

We respect each other and our wish to feel safe, secure and breathe easy. We need to teach, work and learn in peace.

E

Everyone here is celebrated for who they are, regardless of ethnicity, gender, sexuality or disability. We have empathy for those facing mental health challenges and will support all members of our community in finding direction and peace of mind.

M

Making everyone feel included, every day, is important to us. Whether learning or playing, we work together as a team. We know where to go to talk to someone when we need support. We listen when somebody needs to talk.

M

Mavericks are welcome here. We respect our right to be different and embrace our responsibility to each other. We are determined to attend school and lessons on time and pledge to contribute to every social and academic opportunity. We will work to the best of our abilities, learn from our mistakes and move forward. We know every one of us faces challenges and recognise every one of us has a gift to bring to our community.

S

Speaking calmly and using appropriate language shows we respect each other. When stressed, we undertake to take a deep breath and count to ten. We know that each dawn represents a fresh start at Wemms. Our past cannot be changed but our futures are ours to design and furnish.