

The INSPIRE Peace Charter

By choosing to sign the INSPIRE Peace Charter I commit not simply to support the idea of peace, but to strive to live out its values through my example. In doing so I choose to follow in the steps of those, of all faiths and none, who throughout history have understood that the beginning of all peacemaking is the simple, though challenging, daily commitment to treat others as I would wish to be treated myself.

I COMMIT TO:

- Building peace as the way to ensure a more just and secure future for everyone.
- Pursuing reconciliation in every sphere of life at an individual, community, national and global level.
- Engaging with, listening to and seeking to understand those whose opinions, cultures and perspectives differ from mine.
- Responding nonviolently in all situations of tension and conflict.
- Building a society in which the value and rights of every human being are upheld.
- Treating all people – without exception – with justice and respect, regardless of their religion, gender, race, class, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation or physical and mental capability.
- Playing my part with others to prevent war and violence around the world.
- Recognising that the actions of individuals and small groups can create great change.

From Pledges to Action

As a practical follow-up to signing the INSPIRE Peace Charter, your next step within your class, year group, whole school or youth group maybe to take the values you have committed to and work together to create your own additional shared pledges for action.

Signed _____

Date _____



Our INSPIRE Peace Pledges

The INSPIRE Peace Charter means taking action for peace. Peacebuilding is a journey of many steps which we will take together. As a community, we will seek to turn our commitments into reality with the following pledges:

THE PLEDGE:

- We pledge time in school to exploring what peacebuilding means and how we are, and can be, a school for peace.
- We pledge to engage in peace education as urged by the United Nations.
- We pledge to develop peacebuilding literacy, empowering staff and students to use appropriate methods to respond to conflict constructively, such as peer mediation and restorative practices.
- We pledge to explore the root causes of violence as well as to ensure balanced views are presented to our young people about war, the military, armed violence, conflict resolution and peacebuilding.
- We pledge to build a school culture of inclusion and openness.
- We pledge to create a learning environment where dialogue and critical thinking are used to build a belief and commitment to justice and fairness for all people locally, nationally and globally.

