Willow Dene School

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Head Teacher: Rachel Harrison

Deputy Head Teachers: Claire Barnes, Claire Bayfield and Emma Bennett



The Halo Code



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are excited to announce that Willow Dene has adopted The Halo Code. The Halo Code is the UK's first Black hair code. No Black staff or children should have to change their natural or protective hairstyle in order to thrive at our school. We hope that the Halo Code will move us one step closer to a world free from discrimination, where all Black members of our community have their identities fully recognised and celebrated.

The code outlines that our school champions the right of staff and children to embrace all Afro-hairstyles. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of our Black staff and children's racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities, and requires specific styling for hair health and maintenance. We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals, weaves, wigs, headscarves, and wraps.

At this school, we recognise and celebrate our staff and children's identities. We are a community built on an ethos of equality and respect where hair texture and style have no bearing on anyone's ability to succeed.

We are delighted to have joined The Halo Collective in their initiative to move towards a world free from discrimination.

Please do get in contact if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully,

Joshua Garrett-Smith

Assistant Head Teacher

