



# HOLLYMOUNT PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## Hollymount School's response to recent events and the Black Lives Matter movement

At Hollymount we all have been deeply upset by the death of George Floyd in the USA and moved by the worldwide reaction and the Black Lives Matter movement. We reaffirm our commitment not only to recognising the importance of all children, staff and families but to celebrate our diverse community.

We feel we must go further in our support for the Black Lives Matter movement and equality for all. At Hollymount we strongly believe that we all have rights and responsibilities and that we should be free to live and work as equals, free from prejudice and discrimination. It is the schools responsibility to continue to celebrate our diverse community but acknowledge the reality of our range of privilege and capacity for unconscious bias. To acknowledge this is an important step towards equality.

The Black Lives Matter movement has forced us to question what can we do in support. We need parents and carers to talk about diversity with their children and the school will provide resources to support these discussions. We have the responsibility to ensure the Hollymount Curriculum consciously embraces difference and children learn from the diversity of our local and world community. The curriculum we deliver and the class discussions we have, at an age appropriate level, must carefully attempt to challenge any privilege, bias and discrimination as well as better understand and celebrate our diversity.

Hollymount is committed to supporting this call for systemic change through education. We will be working as a school and with an external organisation to review our curriculum and provide professional development for all staff. We believe that it is not OK to aim to not be racist but we must aim to be an actively anti-racist school.

Sam Birnage  
Headteacher

Dr Janko Calic  
Chair of Governors



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