

School of Sanctuary Award

Randlay Primary School and Nursery has been recognised for its ongoing commitment to being a welcoming place of sanctuary, safety and belonging for all pupils. Following a visit to school on Friday 6th September, we were officially awarded “School of Sanctuary” status, only the sixth school in Telford to do so.

A special assembly was held to celebrate the accreditation with a number of special guests invited to share in the achievement. The award was officially presented by Robert Douglas from Shropshire Supports Refugees, who was involved in the official assessment process. The assembly was also attended by Kirsty Holden and Qamar Maqsood, from Telford and Wrekin’s Multicultural Development Team, Dr Carolyn Landau and Chairperson of the Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council, Sheenagh Unwin.

To achieve the award, staff and students learnt about what it means to seek sanctuary, and the issues around forced migration. The assessment process involved four representatives from City of Sanctuary UK that investigated opportunities provided by the school for pupils to engage in multicultural opportunities and build empathetic relationships towards others as well as how the school fosters a culture of welcome, belonging and solidarity for all pupils – including asylum seeking and refugee families.

We are thrilled to receive the School of Sanctuary Award. This is a wonderful acknowledgement of how our school values are lived and breathed every day; we are delighted to have the work we do to create a haven for our children, families, community and those seeking sanctuary recognised in this way.”

Randlay Primary School and Nursery now joins a growing network of schools across the country who have been awarded “School of Sanctuary” status.

Lynda Stolic, Headteacher

