

## **Barley Lane School**

*Friendship, Optimism, Hardwork*

### **Pupil Voice**

- Our community's happiness and success has been built on "relationships" and a feeling of "belonging" that Ofsted celebrated and this can only be achieved if our children and young people have a genuine "voice" and every member of staff strives to be "present" and engaged and accessible and it is often the small asks and wishes from our students that are the most powerful and empowering for example food and drink on demand or more BMX bikes for activities.
- The school is small and also operates a primary model right through key stages 2,3 and 4 so teachers and pupils know each other well and that encourages and supports children being heard because they have stable and trusting relationships with the adults that care for them.
- There is a small school council but in practice and as happens often because the headteacher is highly visible and very accessible the children will and do freely express their wishes and preferences directly to him ;- ) and the whole team is warm and approachable and so those needs and wishes for example for a listening ear, some kindness, a cup of tea or an extra bowl of cereal these are where "voice" matters too not just should we have a drum kit or as happened recently some new go-karts...
- The annual review is child and person centred and offers a more formal opportunity for our children and young people to be heard and we return to our pupils often to ask how they feel about school and their teachers and feedback is consistently very positive.