



# Ark All Saints Academy

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021

## **There is no language ban at Ark All Saints Academy**

At Ark All Saints, we work to promote pride in our scholars' diverse heritages and we do not have a ban on the use of any form of language.

A recent Guardian article has raised questions following its focus on one activity that we use to welcome new students into the Ark All Saints family.

The series of activities are primarily designed to ensure our scholars (i) know what to do if they ever feel unsafe or experience bullying, (ii) to get to know members of staff and (iii) understand what it means to be part of a Church of England school.

One of the sessions deals with the impact of different forms of communication and helps scholars appreciate how using informal language and "fillers" can undermine their ability to be heard and understood.

This session did use the phrase "Banned Words" in the material and this has caused confusion. We have changed the title for future sessions to 'Different forms of communication'.

Of course, the development of reading and speaking skills is a central part of what drives our school to help scholars learn effectively and fulfil their potential. This is done in many ways, not least by studying Black authors like Benjamin Zephaniah, Andrea Levy and John Agard.

Our focus as a school is to help each and every scholar flourish and achieve their full potential in all aspects of their lives. We are extremely proud of our scholars and the community we serve.

Lucy Frame  
Principal at Ark All Saints Academy

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