**Primary school assembly- Year 5 and 6**

Good morning everyone, my name is Danielle and I’ve come from Bradford Council to talk to you in assembly this morning.

1. I’ve got three pictures I want you to look at and I want you to tell me what you see. Hands up who sees a duck? A rabbit? Both?
2. What about this one- who sees an old woman? A young woman? Both? Neither?
3. And finally- look at this dress. Who sees it as white and gold? Who sees it as blue and black? Does anyone see both?

As groups of people we can’t see everything in the same way and just because someone sees something different to you, doesn’t mean they are wrong or you are wrong- it is just different. You can really like something without really hating something else and you can appreciate that people can have different opinions and that is okay- **learning to accept this is called being tolerant and it is what this assembly is all about.**

**Being tolerance is an important part of our British values and being a good citizen of our country because if we respect each other’s differences and listen to each other, our country will be a much more peaceful place.**

**We have to be tolerant of our differences and show respect for each other’s race, religion, gender, age, gender and opinions.**

Sometimes people fear difference because it is not familiar but actually we are all different from each other:

How we see things/ what we like to eat/ what we find funny/ what we believe in/ where we are from – the list is endless, no two people are the same.

If everything was the same we wouldn’t get to try all the different and interesting foods from around the world, we wouldn’t get to experience all the interesting music and dance from around the world, not to mention all the sports that come from other countries and cultures. Everything would be the same all the time and that would be boring.

Only focusing on similarities can sometimes be harmful too. Sometimes we imagine that all people in a certain group are the same and will act and believe in the same things. **Girls- do you all love pink?**

Sometimes all members of a certain group get blamed for the behavior and actions of just a few- and that’s not fair- **such as this article in the Daily Mail about young people- stereotyping them as being young and so involved in crime. Similarly these articles in the Daily Mail that only focus on the religion of the people in the story- attempting to taint everyone who is of that religion with the crime they have done.**

So we have to accept people’s differences and learn from them and in turn, people will accept what makes us different

If we want to live in a world where we can be who we want to be, listen to the music we like, eat the foods we enjoy, dress how we like to dress etc?

Then we must remember that the person next to us has the freedom and right to do the same and we must be tolerant of our differences.

**I’d like you to go away from this and recognise and celebrate each other’s differences and the unique and rich contribution they make to your life.**

Thank you.