

The Co-operative Identity Mark (CIM)

East Tilbury Primary School is part of the St. Cleres Co-operative Academy Trust and we are currently in the process of applying for the CIM to validate our practices. Co-operative schools vary greatly in size, stage, location, specialism and governance model, but one thing we all share is our desire to establish and strengthen our co-operative ethos and to implement the values and principles of the co-operative movement in all aspects of our work.

These values and principles, enshrined in the 'Statement of Co-operative Identity', are the driving philosophy behind a huge section of the global economy – retail, agricultural, housing, health, leisure, transport and service industries – wherever people have chosen to work together for the benefit of their members and their wider communities.

In co-operative schools the values should be identifiable in:

- Governance and membership
- Curriculum
- Pedagogy
- Staff development
- Community engagement

The Co-operative Identity Mark has been developed by the Co-operative College and the Schools Co-operative Society to support schools in embedding the values within all aspects of our work. It provides a 'quality' framework for continued development which incorporates elements of peer support and practice sharing with other co-operative schools. The CIM is validated and quality assured by The Co-operative College.

The Mark is awarded at one of four levels:

- Emerging
- Developing
- Established
- Leading

We look forward to receiving accreditation in the near future