

Perky's HELP

Humanity and Harmony

True influence comes from helping others and making a positive difference, rather than from power alone. Nelson Mandela's commitment to reconciliation after apartheid reflects this.

When countries disagree, the focus should be on communication and respect before conflict arises. *The Good Friday Agreement* springs to mind. This was a 1998 peace deal that helped bring an end to roughly 30 years of conflict in Northern Ireland known as *The Troubles*. It set up a system where unionists (mostly Protestant and wanting to stay in the UK) and nationalists (mostly Catholic and wanting a united Ireland) would share political power.

In the face of deliberate and excessive false information, the truth should be actively sought. Openness, calm thinking and reliance on facts should take precedence over fear and rushing to judgement. During *COVID-19*, it was not always possible to establish and communicate reliable information.

When national resources are scarce and a country's economy is uncertain, its population should remain calm while existing resources are managed wisely. Any help that other nations may offer would be accepted with gratitude. *The Marshall Plan* invested in rebuilding Europe after the Second World War. It was a United States foreign aid programme that provided approximately $13 billion to help rebuild Western European economies when the War ended.

Humanity should strive to prevent further damage to the planet. We should actively repair it and leave a healthier world for successive generations. There is an international effort to restore the ozone layer through the *Montreal Protocol*.

In the midst of rapid technological change, AI should be used carefully. Developing responsible and safe frameworks for the use of AI that benefit the public is a key consideration.