WHAT IS A HUMANIST APPROACH TO BEING GOOD?

We have many shared feelings, needs, and values. This can help us to see why we should be good to each other, because other people are like us.

ZENA

We have good reasons to treat others well. We are not always good. But most human beings are good to each other most of the time. In most situations we know what is the right thing to do. We can work it out.

IAN

Rules can be helpful, but they can also sometimes lead to problems. We therefore always need to think about the consequences of our actions and think about whether following a particular rule is the best course of action.

JESSICA

Most of us have empathy. We can use this to think how other people might feel. Empathy can help us to see that we should treat other people the way we would want to be treated. This is called the Golden Rule.

GRACE

The reason to be kind and helpful rather than uncaring or cruel is because our actions have an impact on other people, society, and the planet. We should aim to promote happiness and reduce suffering in the here and now. That includes non-human animals. Other animals are capable of suffering. We should try to minimise their suffering too.

ALEX

There is nowhere else outside of humanity we can turn to for answers. We have to accept the responsibility to think for ourselves.

HARI