A Brief Statement
Of Humanist Values

Registered Charity No.1112965
Humanist Values

1. We only live once
   Humanists have a positive, realistic attitude towards life. Our life here is the only one we will ever have: it is up to us to give it purpose and to make it the best that we can.

2. The universe has evolved over eons, without a creator or plan
   Humanists accept 'Reality' that human beings are part of an evolutionary process of the planet Earth that began billions of years ago. Those who follow 'Belief' through religion or cult following, accept the existence of god/s that created the Universe without questioning or empirical evidence.

3. The welfare of people and the planet is our moral responsibility
   Humanists have concern for the wellbeing of all of humankind and for the health of our worldwide ecological environment. Humanists support every opportunity to cooperate with others to face the problems of the world.

4. Right behaviour is based on reason, respect and reciprocity
   Morality is developed from reason and knowledge. It is not derived from a supernatural source but is the product of our experience as evolved social animals. Humanists take responsibility for their own conduct and believe that the underlying principle governing morality is that we should treat other people as we would wish to be treated.

5. Democratic values take precedence over ideologies
   Humanists are committed to a secular society. Whilst generally respecting the right of others to have different Values, Humanists challenge those Values that are encroached by 'belief' which threatens the freedom of the individual.

6. Conflicts of interest require negotiated resolution
   Disputes at all levels from the personal to the international should be resolved through reasoned argument and negotiation, rather than through the use of gained or privileged power.

7. Artistic creativity and physical expression are key characteristics of humanity
   Humanists recognise that art and exercise of physical skills, meet the innate need in human beings for creativity and self-expression.

For further information please visit northeast-humanists.org.uk