



British Values Policy 2016

'Children of God, learning and growing together in love'

This policy should be read in conjunction with our Ethos and Values policy and our Community Policy

School Aims

Our School aims to provide a happy and secure learning environment for all. We believe that each individual is created in the likeness of God and this underpins all the decisions undertaken in School. This and other values that we promote both compliment and support what is known as 'British Values'. This policy sets out some examples of the way these are embedded and a central part of our every day school life.

Democracy

An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process

- School Council (class elections for new members once a year)
- House Captains & Vice Captains (elections once per year – whole school)
- Topic work on democracy
- Children hold positions of Leadership responsibility throughout the school e.g. Prefects, Liturgy Team and Playground Pals
- History lessons/ PSHE lessons
- Visit from local MPs
- All pupils are listened to by adults, through representative groups and questionnaires

The Rule of Law

An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety. An understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence

- Pupils have many opportunities for Leadership and can both influence and enforce school rules
- Classes creating “class rules” which are on display
- Having a clear behaviour policy that is explained to all and is consistently reinforced by all staff
- Pupils are taught the rules and expectations of the school. These are discussed and reinforced in assemblies, class time, in PSHE, at break and lunch time and are referred to by all school staff, teachers and non-teachers alike

- Pupils are taught the value and the reasons behind laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken
- Visit by Local Magistrate to Years 5 and 6
- Visits by local police/ PCSOs/ Fire Service

Individual Liberty

An understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law

- Pupils are actively encouraged to make independent choices knowing that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment
- We encourage students to see themselves as unique individuals able to make a unique contribution to our community
- All pupils are encouraged to participate in all school activities
- Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights, responsibilities and personal freedoms and receive advice about how to exercise these safely, for example through our exploration of E-Safety
- Pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe so as to be able to make informed choices and be able to say 'no' in harmful situations

Mutual respect

An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination

- Having a school motto and school prayer that is inclusive
- Emphasising in RE and PSHE lessons that every person is unique and “created in the image of God”, whatever their background or faith
- Our curriculum includes an ‘equalities’ thread, based on story books and workshops
- Consistently promoting respect for others and good manners. This is reiterated through our classroom and learning environments as well as extra-curricular activities such as sports
- Strong message which is consistently delivered through assemblies and liturgies
- Reinforcing the value of everyone’s opinions in class debates
- Having an effective anti-bullying policy and E safety policy
- Building strong links with other schools
- Fundraising and supporting a variety of charities
- Links with our local community e.g. visiting the elderly

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

An acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour

- Religious Education provides pupils with a deep understanding of their own faith as well as awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities as a basis for understanding and respecting them
- Our curriculum follows the teaching of the Church in providing a broad and balanced education, which includes an understanding of and respect for people of other faiths or none and other religions, cultures and lifestyles

- Recognising and celebrating that we live in a culturally diverse society
- Visitors from different faiths are invited to speak at assemblies
- Theme weeks e.g. Judaism week / Islam week
- All racism, derogatory comments etc. are challenged
- Our school operates a zero tolerance of disrespectful behaviour and uses every opportunity to promote positive images.

Date: September 2016

To be reviewed: September 2018

Chair of Governors, Mrs B Bromley