



Higham St John's CE Primary School Statement on British Values

The Department for Education states that there is a need ***“to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”***

As a Church of England School, many of the British Values are already a fundamental part of our everyday life. However, this document aims to provide you with information on how we develop these values within the school.

Democracy

Democracy is embedded in the school's work and relationships. Pupils are listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully to each other with concern for them, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Pupils also have the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our School Council. In addition, the junior children complete a Pupil Attitude Questionnaire annually, with the results reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team to see if there are areas upon which to build.

The election of the School Council is based solely on pupil votes (following presentations), reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action. The School Council meets regularly and any proposals are discussed with the Senior Leadership Team. Democracy is discussed/taught as part of the discussions about the School Council elections, creation of class rules, as part of the topics on Greeks and as part of the PSHE curriculum. School has also taken older children to Parliament on a number of occasions.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws whether they are those that govern the school or the country, are consistently reinforced.

Each class discusses and displays the rules which are clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every pupil is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment. Our pupils are taught the values and reasons behind laws, how that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities they bring and the consequences when they are broken. Our aim is to develop a sense of community in which expectations are clear.

We encourage our parents and children to sign up to our Home School Agreement. This sets out the school's expectations for behaviour and attitudes to

learning. The Home School Agreement is reviewed from time to time. Parents, children, staff and Governors are all involved in the review process.

The school follows a clear behaviour policy, including rewards and sanctions which are communicated clearly to our children in the classroom environment. Parents have access to the behaviour policy on the school website and a summary is sent home each time the policy is reviewed.

The school also benefits from visits from the police and fire service. We take part in the 'Right start' road safety programme for Foundation and KS1 children, and Year 5/6 are involved in the 'Bikeability' programme which teaches children how to ride a bike safely.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely in a safe environment and through an empowering curriculum based upon clear principles and values. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely; examples of this can be clearly seen in our e-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it is through challenges, how they record, participation in our numerous extra-curricular activities, selection of hot meals and tidying away themselves, our pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

Respect is one of our core values and key to our school rules. Our school ethos and behaviour policy are based around such core values as 'respect' and 'responsibility', and these values determine how we live as a community. Being a Church of England School, our worship is frequently values based. Christian Values (which frequently overlap with British Values) are focused upon terms and progress/achievements celebrated as appropriate. A display in the hall reflects this.

All of our children are members of a team and they can earn team points to help their team achieve a special treat at the end of term. They also support their teams at the annual Sports Day where children work together on a range of activities to earn points for their team.

Each week, teachers select two children for 'Merit' in each class. These are celebrated in a weekly assembly and children take a certificate home.

Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

Our mission statement clearly states our focus upon developing tolerance of others. We enhance pupils' understanding of different faiths and beliefs through religious education studies following the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus, PSHCE work, visits to places of worship, welcoming visitors of other faiths, respecting the different faiths and beliefs of our own members of the school community and enjoying in-depth of

study during themed weeks. Through these opportunities our pupils gain an enhanced understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society. Our links with St John's Church also support this process.

We recognise the contribution that British Values plays in promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.