

Coxhoe Primary School



Policy on the promotion of British values and the combatting of extremist views in school

As part of our school's ethos and curriculum we encourage pupils to respect the fundamental British values of:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

We ensure that partisan political and religious views are not promoted in the teaching of any subject in the school and where political/religious issues are brought to the attention of the pupils, reasonably practicable steps will be taken to offer a balanced presentation of opposing views to pupils.

Members of staff are required to remain vigilant to the possibility of children accessing or sharing material(s) likely to promote extremist views. Such items may be paper-based or computer-based. If such materials are discovered, they should be brought to the attention of a member of the school's Senior Management Team without delay, and a 'Cause of Concern' sheet completed to record the concern. These sheets are available from the Designated Officers for Child Protection (Mr Jones and Mrs Bartle).

British values will be promoted through:

- assemblies
- the formal curriculum
- staff members setting an example through their behaviour and remarks
- Pro-actively inviting (and welcoming) visitors to school from a range of backgrounds
- Opportunities for pupils to visit centres of interest and/or importance to those of other faiths and cultures

In order to build pupil's resilience to radicalisation and understanding of other religions/faiths/cultures we shall endeavour to create a 'safe environment' for debate and discussion about other people, religions, cultures and help pupils to recognise the contribution which they and others can make to our country and the world – both positive and negative.

We shall help pupils to understand that while different people may hold different views about what is right and wrong, all people living in the UK are subject to its laws. In our school we will encourage pupils to support the rule of British civil and criminal law and not teach anything which would undermine this basis of law. If we teach about religious law we shall make sure that pupils are aware of the differences between the law of the land and religious law.

We will challenge opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to fundamental British values and law.

Through our ethos and curriculum we shall help pupils to develop, age appropriately, the following understanding and knowledge:

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision making through the democratic process.
- An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their well-being 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.
- 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.
- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

Policy created: July 2015 S. Jones

Adopted by Governing Body: Autumn term 2015

Documents used in the preparation of this policy and further guidance:

The term 'British values' is taken from a definition of extremism in the document 'Tackling Extremism in the UK'.

Further guidance around the Prevent Duty may be found in the Government's 'Prevent Strategy' documentation (June 2011) and DfE advice document 'The Prevent Duty: Departmental Advice for schools and Childcare providers (June 2015). The latter of which is a response to Section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools (November 2014 – DfE)

The Prevent Duty – advice for schools and childcare providers (June 2015 – DfE)