



# *British Values* Policy

## Document Control

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## Teaching British values

In November 2014 the Department for Education (DFE) published guidance on promoting British values in schools to ensure young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain.

The guidance states that we have a duty to 'actively promote' the fundamental British values of:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At Wirksworth Federation of Infant Schools these values are regularly promoted through high quality teaching, a rounded programme of collective worship and a positive behaviour policy allowing children to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute to life in modern Britain.

## Democracy

Pupil voice plays a big part in life across the Federation.

Children have input in their learning and what they would like to learn and this is used to inform teachers' planning which promotes pupil voice.

Pupil discussions, questionnaires and interviews are also conducted throughout the year.

Playground Pals are trained to work hand in hand with the staff to ensure that all children's voices are heard at lunch and break time.

Our school and/or ECO council play a strong role in our school. The children on the school and/or ECO council are involved in making the Federation a better place to learn. We know that the formation of the school and/or ECO council and the active participation of our children will sow the seeds for a more sophisticated understanding of democracy in the future.

## **The rule of law**

Our children will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives.

We want our children to understand that whether these laws govern their class, their school, the Federation, their community or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to. This understanding of the importance of rules will be consistently reinforced through collective worship, our curriculum and day to day school life.

All children are expected to follow the school rules 'we listen, we think, we share.

Our school Behaviour Policy was contributed to by the children and it gives them the opportunity and responsibility to make choices about suitable consequences for the positive and negative behaviour of themselves and their peers. Children are taught to understand that their behaviour (constructive or undesirable) does have an impact on others.

Throughout the year we welcome visits from members of the wider community including police, war veterans, the fire brigade and many more.

We believe that clear explanations and real life stories emphasise the importance of the Rule of Law for our children and how laws are there for children's own protection.

## **Individual liberty**

We invest a lot of time across the Federation in creating a positive culture in our schools. Children are in a supportive and safe environment where good choices are encouraged.

We offer a range of clubs which children have the freedom to choose from, based on their interests.

Through our E-Safety and PSHE and Citizenship sessions, we educate children on their rights and personal freedoms as well as supporting them in recognising how to exercise these freedoms safely. Children in Years 1 and 2 have weekly opportunities to debate topical issues.

At Wirksworth Federation of Infant Schools we believe that valuing choice and freedom in daily school life even at this early age will foster a

value for individual liberty as the children embark upon their future adult lives.

## **Mutual respect**

Our current school vision 'Inspiring Learning For All' is a reflection on how as two schools and a community we unite together and support each other. The school vision was created as part of a major consultation with all stakeholders (2017).

Our children learn together with absolute respect for each other. Within each class and across the Federation we frequently change the learning groups that the children work in and every child knows that we respect and appreciate each other no matter what differences may exist.

We refer to each year group as a 'team' across the Federation reinforcing that 'Together Everybody Achieves More.'

Through the initiation of our Wirksworth Community Wonder Award scheme we run in conjunction with the local police force children are encouraged and rewarded for showing mutual respect within the community, by being a good friend, recycling, promoting road safety, protecting the environment and celebrating their own achievements.

We support a number of charities throughout the year and the children have a clear understanding that there are people who are less fortunate than themselves. Children and staff are often involved in deciding which charities we are to support.

Mutual respect is at the core of our school life.

## **Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

Within Wirksworth, we are fortunate to be surrounded by a culturally diverse arts community and as a school we regularly celebrate and respect our local area and immerse ourselves in its history, heritage and traditions.

Both schools within the Federation offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected, this is supported by implementation of the Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus for RE

2014-2019, which is adopted as recommended by the Diocesan Board of Education across Wirksworth Infant School and Wirksworth Church of England Infant School.

Parents/carers and leaders of different faiths are welcomed to the school to share their beliefs, while we also visit numerous places of worship.

Across the Federation we strongly believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding. Through our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain for the future.

## Federation core values

Alongside the active promotion of British values as a Federation, we promote daily our core school values.

Each core value is taught discretely as part of collective worship and class teaching over a 3-year rolling programme. Where relevant, links to British values are made to our core school values.

The 3-year rolling programme of school and British values for 2017 - 2020 to be taught is shown below.

SV = School value BV = British value	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
<b>Autumn 1</b>	SV - Thankfulness	SV - Friendship	SV - Forgiveness
<b>Autumn 2</b>	SV - Respect BV - Mutual respect	SV - Trust	SV - Justice BV - Rule of Law
<b>Spring 1</b>	SV - Perseverance	SV - Compassion BV - Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs	SV - Peace
<b>Spring 2</b>	SV - Service	SV - Hope	SV - Wisdom BV - Individual liberty
<b>Summer 1</b>	SV - Responsibility BV - Democracy	SV - Courage	SV - Humility
<b>Summer 2</b>	SV - Creativity	SV - Generosity	SV - Truthfulness

## Promotion of values across the curriculum

Each curriculum area in its own way in the EYFS and at Key Stage 1 can contribute to the development of school and British values and of Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural (SMSC) development.

Staff have developed a planning document that suggests ways in which values and SMSC aspects can be addressed in specific areas of the school curriculum. The list developed is not exhaustive but meant to be used as a starting point to assist in planning.

## Inspection reports

During our last inspection (Wirksworth Church of England Infant School December 2016 and Wirksworth Infant School December 2012), promotion of children's social, moral, spiritual and cultural development was recognised as a strength of the Federation.

Additional comments in the most recent Ofsted report for Wirksworth Church of England Infant School stated:

The values of the school are endorsed during collective worship and this is reflected in the pupils' positive attitudes and behaviours towards each other.

The pupils reflect the core values of the school through their caring and thoughtful relationships with each other. These values are endorsed in daily collective worship activities and during class activities. The pupils understand the importance of key values, such as humility, compassion and forgiveness. These are exemplified in pupils' behaviour around the school and their willingness to engage in the varied learning experiences on offer at the school.

Our most recent Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) report (May 2015) recognised Wirksworth Church of England Infant School to be an 'Outstanding' Church of England School meaning it is distinctively and recognisably a Christian institution. We believe that this Christian identity is mirrored within Wirksworth Infant School and plays an important role in upholding British values within our whole school community.

## **Involving parents/carers**

Each half term as a new core school value and British value is introduced parents/carers are given a homework related information / activity sheet enabling them to support their child at home on reinforcing the value.

Parents/carers are given annually a copy of our British values policy.

## **Monitoring and review**

The Headteacher monitors and reports to the Governing Body on the effectiveness of this policy on a regular basis and makes recommendations for further improvements.

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Federation's monitoring and review cycle. The Governing Body may, however, review the policy earlier than this in response to new regulations or if they receive recommendations on how the policy might be improved.