



## Teaching British Values Policy

Promoting British Values at Gooseacre Primary Academy

The Department for Education have said "***Keeping our children safe and ensuring schools prepare them for life in modern Britain could not be more important.***"

The DfE reinforced the need "***to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values.***"

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated this year (2014).

Schools are therefore required to actively promote and not undermine "British Values" The government has set out its definition of British Values as:

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

At Gooseacre Primary Academy these values are reinforced regularly and promoted in the following ways:

- Through collective worship, circle time and reflection time, we actively promote values, virtues and ethics that shape our pupils' character and moral perspective. We are confident that our teachings will give our pupils the necessary awareness of what it means to be a good citizen in Britain today, and embed in them the building blocks of a future successful and productive life.
- Through our teaching in RE, PSHE, citizenship, curriculum topics and promoting 'The Common Good,' we are able to make real links between the values of our pupils and the lives of others in their community, country and the world.
- Through our Curriculum we teach the pupils about :
  - democracy,
  - civic responsibility,
  - rules and laws,
  - the monarchy,
  - equality,
  - values and virtues,
  - environmental issues
  - other faiths

We value the diversity and differences of all our pupils and celebrate this through our culture, ethos, approach to lessons and our respectful relationships we promote. Commitment and celebration of our diversity makes us collectively stronger, tolerant and respectful to all.

**Through our school's Mission Statement and values we live out our "British Values".**

### **Democracy**

Each year the pupils decide upon their class name and charter and the rights and expectations associated with these; they all contribute to the drawing up of this agreement. The pupils also contribute towards their topics each term asking specific questions to be covered.

We have a School Council which meets with the learning mentor and Deputy or Headteacher to discuss issues raised in class. Every pupil on the Student Council is voted in by their class.

During the year, pupils also complete questionnaires where they are able to put forward their views about the school. Each year the pupils vote for their School Council Representatives.

### **The Rule of Law**

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

Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school, including our golden rules. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

### **Individual Liberty**

At Gooseacre, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, within a safe and supportive environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE lessons. We teach the pupils about civil liberty and the Children's Rights Act and they are encouraged to understand the responsibilities that come with these rights.

**Mutual Respect:** Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around Core Values such as 'Respect', and pupils are constantly reminded about what this means in practice. This is reiterated through our classroom, as well as our behaviour policy and collective worships.

**Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:** This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge of culture and celebrations to enhance learning across the school.

September 2017

Reviewed: September 2019

To be reviewed: September 2020