

Waynflete Infants' School

Promoting British Values Policy

The Department for Education have emphasised the 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.” The fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs are already implicitly embedded in the 2014 Early Years Foundation Stage.

This is also set out in the DfE Teachers Standards that: “Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by: “not undermining fundamental British Values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs “ (Teachers Standards 9d)

The Government’s definition of British values is set out in the 2011 Prevent Strategy; in 2014, it became statutory to publish how these are promoted in each school.

At Waynflete Infants’ School these Values sit within the overall ethos of the school as described -

School Purpose: To provide high quality education at Foundation Stage and Key stage 1 balancing all areas of learning with an emphasis upon development of the individual.

Our Vision: We aim to be an outstanding school; providing high quality teaching, creating a high-achieving, challenging and safe learning environment.

Our Behaviours: We aim to behave in a way which:

- Creates a safe, fun and challenging learning environment
- Values diversity and promotes equality
- Provides development opportunities for all

We believe that our school is a unique place to work and learn. It has an individual identity that combines traditional values with a modern, vibrant vision. Children lie at the heart of this successful school. Staff bring a breadth and depth of professional knowledge and encourage a learning culture with a strong ethos of inclusion.

In addition to this, at Waynflete we also aim:

- To offer our children the best possible education within the context of a caring and values based community;
- To provide a happy school environment where everyone is secure and valued;
- To work in partnership with parents in the education of their children and encourage their involvement and support;
- To teach the skills required to seek knowledge independently, allowing children to develop a love of learning;
- To enable high standards to be achieved across the curriculum through the acquisition of knowledge, skill and understanding;
- To foster the development of high self-esteem, through positive action and statement;
- To expect high standards of behaviour, with respect and consideration shown by everyone, both within the school community and outside in the wider world;
- To develop a caring ethos for the environment and the world we live in;
- To develop an understanding of other cultures and religions and to foster spiritual growth;
- To prepare children for the next stage of their education, and stage of life.

These Values are promoted through the curriculum as well as within the wider life of the school.

Democracy

Managers and staff can encourage children to see their role in the bigger picture, encouraging children to know their views count, value each other's views and values and talk about their feelings, for example when they do or do not need help. Staff can support the decisions that children make and provide activities that involve turn-taking, sharing and collaboration.

The children learn about democracy in a range of contexts which are meaningful to them. Our School Council, School Houses and Pupil questionnaires are ways that we provide the experience of being part of a democracy. All of these, offer the children an opportunity to have an active role in decisions that are made and consequently prepare pupils for their role as future citizens and members of society. Members of the School Council, sports crew and digital leaders are elected each year, following speeches made in assemblies by those wishing to represent the school.

Our School Council meet regularly to discuss issues, monitor the work of the school, and agree ways in which provision for education can be further enhanced and developed. The whole school have the opportunity to feedback ideas to the School Council through class council sessions. Every year, there is a pupil survey, and children are encouraged to express their views freely – the results of these are analysed and fed back to children and parents.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the day, as well as when dealing with behaviour. Clear structures provide a framework, within which the children can develop an understanding of how good laws and rules benefit everyone. Staff can collaborate with children to create the rules and codes of behaviour.

Children are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. These are embedded through our Values ethos, PSHE lessons, school assemblies and the highest of expectations. As a school we work to provide children with good role models to guide our pupils into making the right choices this is also supported in the wider community through the use of visitors including, for example, police and local public figures.

Individual Liberty

Within school, the pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Through the provision of a clear context for learning, and a framework of expectations, boundaries are provided, within which the children are safe and empowered to make choices. Children are respected as individuals, and are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms whilst being advised how to exercise those safely, for example through E-Safety lessons.

Throughout each day children have the opportunity to make choices – for example participation in extra-curricular clubs available and the options to take on additional responsibilities such as sports crew and other monitors. We further advance and support the value of choices through our language of values which we actively use during every day school life. Children are encouraged to develop responsibility, think independently and make sensible choices. Staff should encourage a range of experiences that allow children to explore the language of feelings and responsibility.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect. Managers and leaders should create an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance. At Waynfilet we take pride in participating in regular charity events and raising money for particular causes that are close to our hearts. As a school we continuously promote the importance of manners towards others and this is always evident with our children, whether they are in school or outside of school. Additionally we expect parents and carers to also advocate the use of manners and respect for others outside of school life.

Harmony with (Tolerance of) those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We value the diverse ethnic background of all pupils and families and undertake a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these. We have found this approach to be enriching for all parties as it further educates and supports the understanding of respect for the differences in our community and the wider world. Underpinning all of this are a range of curriculum themes, which include a study of diverse cultures and traditions. We place a great emphasis on promoting diversity within the school and wider world. Children visit places that are of importance to different faiths, and visitors are invited into school, as appropriate topics are studied. We actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

These values are implicitly embedded through the ethos of our school and curriculum. They are reflected within each area of the curriculum and we are always working on ways that we can ensure that these values are enhanced.

_____ Ratified

_____ Date

Reviewed February 16