

BRITISH VALUES POLICY

Committee: Children and Learning

Approved on: Summer 2023

Staff: P Leah

Notes: Non-Statutory

Next Review Date: Summer 2024

Headteacher: Mrs Amanda Pedder

Introduction

Loseley Fields Primary School has an obligation under section 78 of the Education Act (2002) which requires all schools, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum, to promote the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of students at the school. In June 2014, the Secretary of State for Education announced that schools would be required to actively promote British values from September 2014. The DfE have recently reinforced the need “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values.”

The British Values are defined as:

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

At Loseley Fields Primary School we are committed to actively promoting British values and this forms part of our wider work in school with children in relation to their Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education (SMSC). At the heart of these values lie good relationships in which teachers and students work together towards common goals.

Aims

We aim to:

Actively 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. Thus, encouraging pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

We will ensure that principles are actively promoted which:

- Enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- Enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England
- Encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality in which the school is situated and to society more widely. *Our Citizenship Pathway encourages children to look beyond themselves and to do things that benefit others rather than themselves, thus contributing positively to their family and community. We regularly hold fundraising events for local and national charities.*

- Enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England
 - Promote further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures. *Through the 'Social Change' and 'Exploration and Trade' threads of our History curriculum, the children learn how the UK has been invaded through history and how the British have, in turn, invaded and colonised other countries. Year 4 study Benin in Africa to understand how advanced many African civilisations were before the Transatlantic Slave Trade is studied in Year 5. Year 6 study Windrush to understand the issues faced by immigrants. In addition, all year groups study 'Remarkable People' one day per term, who are selected from a range of diverse backgrounds and cultures in order to further enhance their appreciation & respect for their own and others' cultures. Assemblies also highlight the work of individuals from a range of cultures and backgrounds who have made/are making significant contributions to the world they live in.*
 - Encourage respect for other people. *Our PSHE/Citizenship has a real focus on respect for others, and it is a core value running through the school that is reinforced in all areas of the curriculum. Assemblies, PSHE lessons and pastoral support help our children to learn that respect for others is at the heart of all we do.*
 - Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England. *Through the 'Changing Power of the Monarchy' thread in our History curriculum, children learn how Britain has become a democratic country over time, and how this has affected the country. Year 6 study the suffrage movement in greater detail.*
- Prevent the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the school and take such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure that where political issues are brought to the attention of pupils they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. This should be:
 - While they are in attendance at the school
 - While they are taking part in extra-curricular activities which are provided or organised by or on behalf of the school
 - In the promotion at the school, including through the distribution of promotional material, of extra-curricular activities taking place at the school or elsewhere
 - Protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism

Roles & Responsibilities

The Governors and staff at Loseley Fields Primary School will:

- Ensure that fundamental British values are embedded as an integral part of the ethos and culture of our school

- Challenge opinions or behaviours in school by students, staff, visitors, volunteers or parents that are contrary to fundamental British values, including extremist views
- Ensure that all visitors to Loseley Fields Primary school are screened to ensure that they do not attempt to promote systems that undermine fundamental British values including extremism or radicalisation
- Ensure that our students understand that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their well-being and safety and that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law
- Teach our students about the democracy and the rule of English civil and criminal law and will not teach anything that undermines it
- Ensure all students within the school, regardless of age, have a voice that is listened to
- Demonstrate how democracy works and by developing an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making by actively promoting democratic processes such as electing a school council whose members are voted for by the students
- Reinforce fundamental British values through the PSHE/Citizenship curriculum, and school assemblies
- Ensure that our students are taught a balanced RE curriculum, which takes account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Britain
- Ensure that our students understand that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- Ensure that we develop a tolerance and understanding of different faiths, cultures and beliefs by visiting places of worship, inviting visiting speakers to the school and using teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help pupils understand a range of faiths
- Enable our students to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to our local community and life in modern Britain
- Enable our students to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in the community of the school. E.g. our buddy system, school council and sport champions
- Deliver a balanced programme of assemblies which promote students' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development, providing clear guidance on what is right and what is wrong
- Ensure an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination, extremism and radicalisation
- Ensure that there are effective risk assessments and screening policies and procedures in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare against the threat of extremism and radicalisation.