



Forefield Community Infant & Nursery School

Statement on the Promotion of British Values

Background and Rationale

The promotion of British Values is embedded throughout our ambitious curriculum in both EYFS and KS1.

- Maintained schools have obligations under section 78 of the Education Act (2002) which requires schools, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum, to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society.
- The 2014 National Curriculum includes the following statement:

Every state-funded school must offer a curriculum which is balanced and broadly based and which: promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

- The 2011 Teachers' Standards state, as part of teachers' personal and professional conduct:

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

- These values support the national Prevent Strategy, put before Parliament in 2011 by the Home Secretary as a response to radicalisation of British citizens.

The Prevent Strategy recognises the importance of schools in counter-terrorism activities. Concerns about the inappropriate actions of some schools were highlighted in the Birmingham Trojan Horse case, where a number of OFSTED inspections revealed a failure to promote British values adequately in some schools, meaning that children and young people in them were vulnerable to radical and extremist ideas. Consequently, the Government requires all schools to have a clear statement of British values and how they are promoted through the school's curriculum.

What is meant by “British Values”?

We believe that the following list exemplifies some of the values held by British citizens:

- Democracy
- Respect of the rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Appreciation of the rights of other citizens
- The promotion of opportunities for all
- Religious tolerance and respect for cultural diversity
- Treating others with fairness
- Participation in local community life and global community life

Although this list is not exhaustive, we believe it encapsulates the key attitudes we value at Forefield Community Infant & Nursery School and which we seek to promote and begin to develop in our young children.

How does Forefield Community Infant & Nursery School promote these values?

We believe that our statement of vision and values and our aims, found on the school's website, makes explicit our fundamental belief in many of these values. This statement is the foundation of all our work with our children.

British values are embodied in the following more specific ways:

- The promotion of our Golden Rules as a code of conduct which underpins the school's Behaviour & Discipline Policy and which have at their heart, mutual respect, individual responsibility and appreciation of the rights of others.
- Active School Councillors voted into office by the children, developing an early understanding of democracy, and responsibility. Our School Council plans charity events; contributes to staff recruitment processes, interviewing candidates alongside school Governors.
- Participation in local community projects and initiatives e.g. CAPITAL School Cluster Cultural Diversity Concert, Dance Festival celebrations and inter-school sports competitions with other local primary, high and special school pupils;

- Development of pupils as global citizens through international school partnership projects e.g. International Schools Award, New partnership school in South Africa, extending values within the local community.
- From Nursery to Y2, children will have the opportunity to participate in Spanish lessons providing a basis for later language learning, building enthusiasm, curiosity and respect for other languages and cultures.
- Programme of Collective Worship based on weekly themes, many of which focus on British values and are enhanced by local faith leaders and community group representatives
- RE programme which follows Sefton's Agreed Syllabus focusing on developing children's understanding of Christianity and Judaism within Foundation Stage and KS1
- Strong Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development through the overt and hidden curriculum e.g. raising awareness of different religious festivals, cultural traditions and customs - recognising and celebrating cultural similarities and differences
- Strong personal, social and emotional development across the school with children encouraged to actively to listen to each other, take turns and treat each other with respect and to value the differences we all have
- School is committed to developing children's awareness of their rights and responsibilities as global citizens
- The school supports local, national and international charities e.g. Jospice International, Radio City Cash for Kids, Children in Need, Operation Christmas Child, Epilepsy Research UK

Claire Gilroy

January 2020