



# British Values Policy

Policy Review Details	
This policy will be reviewed by the governing body in accordance with the Policy Review Schedule	
Date of Issue: September 2021	
Chair of Governors' Signature	Headteacher's Signature
Date of next review:	

## **Rationale**

St George's C of E Primary School is committed to actively promoting core British Values and serving its community. We recognise that this includes challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to these core values. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. We also understand the vital role we have in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

We follow equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or any of the protected characteristics. St George's C of E Primary School is dedicated to preparing pupils for their adult life beyond the formal curriculum and ensuring that we promote and reinforce British Values to all pupils.

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and 2014 the DfE reiterated the need to "create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of:

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

### **1.0 Legal framework**

1.1. This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Equality Act 2010
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014
- Ofsted (2019) 'School inspection handbook'
- DfE (2014) 'Improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils: supplementary information'

1.2. This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Positive Relationships Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Disciplinary Policy and Procedure

### **2.0 Aims and Objectives**

At St George's 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
- Encourage pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.
- Ensure that principles are actively promoted.
- 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
- 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
- Encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010
- 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
- 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 including but not restricted to those linked to Islam ideology, Far Right/Neo Nazi/White Supremacist ideology etc.

### **3.0 Roles & Responsibilities**

#### **The Governors and staff at St George's C of E Primary School will:**

- Ensure that fundamental British values are embedded as an integral part of the ethos and culture of St George's C of E Primary School;
- Challenge opinions or behaviours in school by pupils, staff, visitors, volunteers or parents that are contrary to fundamental British values, including extremist views;
- Ensure that all visitors to St George's C of E 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 pupils 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 pupils about the democracy and the rule of English civil and criminal law and will not teach anything that undermines it;
- Ensure all pupils 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 pupils;
- Reinforce fundamental British values through the SMSC programme, PSHE curriculum, Citizenship curriculum and the assembly programme;
- Ensure that our students are taught a balanced RE curriculum, that is broadly Christian but, which also takes account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Britain;
- Ensure that our pupils 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 pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in the community of the school. E.g. supporting younger children in lessons and delivering extra-curricular activities;
- Deliver a balanced programme of assemblies and reflection sessions which promote pupils' 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 pupils' welfare against the threat of extremism and radicalisation.

#### **4.0 Embedding British Values**

These values all come under the Citizenship umbrella and are taught explicitly through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE) and Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL), Understanding the World (UW) in the Early Years and Religious Education (RE). We also teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum.

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through daily collective worship and whole school systems and structures. We also actively promote British values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values. Resources such as books, display materials are identified and purchased to support these aims.

At St George's Primary School, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

#### **4.1 Democracy:**

Democracy is an important value at our school.

- Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Pupil Voice group who are voted for by the children. The pupil voice group work under the guidance and the leadership of the Deputy Head. In this way they are able to effect change within the school.
- Pupils fill in an annual questionnaire in which they are able to put forward their views about the school.
- Pupils will engage in debates, discussions and ballots across the curriculum appropriate to their stage of learning.

#### **4.2 The Rule of Law:**

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days.

- All pupils and parents sign up to the home school agreement.
- Our system for behaviour is aligned to an agreed set of codes and if children are given verbal warnings this is always set against the agreed school behaviour code and consequences.
- Children are asked to identify which aspect of the code they have broken to ensure that this connection is made and any consequence understood.
- Pupils 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.
- Our partner agencies in the community, Police, Fire service, Youth work team, are regular visitors to school and help reinforce this message.
- Transition work between classes and key stages prepares students for expectations when moving through the school and on to high schools.
- Health and safety rules are in place. The buddy system allows pupils to support the application of the school rules.
- To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and work, we have devised a reward system which is consistently followed throughout the school.
- We are committed to praising children's efforts.
- We endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school.

- Children are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas, but also for meeting expectations in behaviour around the school. Praise and tangible rewards are in place.
- Rewards are given in the form of stickers, praise slips, Dojo points and certificates.
- Children's achievements are also recognised during Celebration Assemblies.

#### **4.3 Individual Liberty:**

- Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.
- As a school we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and planned curriculum.
- Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety teaching.
- The calm atmosphere leaves children free to learn.
- The secure safeguarding procedures are designed to support children and let them thrive.
- Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, for example participating in for extra-curricular clubs.

#### **4.4 Mutual Respect:**

- Part of our school ethos and positive relationships policy are based around core values such as 'respect' and 'responsibility' and these values determine how we live as a community at St George's primary School.
- To support this staff are trained in the restorative justice system and this is used appropriately should the need arise within the school community.
- Pupils in Year 5 and 6 follow a 6 week RESPECT project with the Integrated Youth Support Service. This includes diversity, hate crime, anti-bullying, homophobia, racism and sexism.
- The leaders of the project also work in the local community and in the High Schools and have the opportunities to follow up the school based work.
- Year 5 pupils have the opportunity to become "Young Leaders" through attending a course led by our Sports Coach.
- Activities relating to the local community, tree planting, community art work, help us understand our role within the greater community.

#### **4.5 Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

- This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our own local community.
- We use opportunities such as the Olympics, the World Cup and other international festivals to study and learn about life and culture in other countries and continents.
- When appropriate displays will celebrate diversity within the school and celebrate all faiths
- We study the different world faiths identified in the Salford syllabus and learn about their customs, practices and celebrations.
- We visit a variety of places of worship throughout the school year to reflect the different faiths in our community and the wider world.
- At St. George's C.E. Primary School we will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including extremist views.

#### **5.0 Policy review**

- This policy is reviewed annually by the school.
- The next scheduled review date for this policy is September 2022.