

POLICY FOR PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES

OVERVIEW

Our school is a caring Christian community which values every individual member. We want our pupils to become responsible, active citizens who participate in public life with respect for diversity and a commitment to working towards greater community cohesion. By planning our curriculum accordingly we actively promote British values. In doing so, we will ensure that all learners understand the values that have traditionally underpinned British society and we will prepare pupils for life in England, where the population has an increasingly rich diversity of backgrounds, origins, beliefs and cultures. The teaching of Christian Values, which underpin all we do at Tilstock, also supports these aims. By teaching pupils these British and Christian values we will help all pupils to become good citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure that pupils develop an understanding of the values which underpin life in Britain.
2. To teach pupils to have a mutual respect and tolerance for, and an understanding of the various faiths and beliefs represented in Britain today.
3. To ensure that pupils learn to uphold the rule of law and support freedom, justice and equality.
4. To help pupils understand and value the rich diversity that other citizens from different cultures, religions and backgrounds bring to our national society.
5. To value people's differences and respect them.
6. To develop pupils' awareness and tolerance of communities different to their own.
7. To value democracy and to stand up for right against wrong.

Democracy

We want our pupils to understand and respect the democratic process and recognise how they can influence decision making through the democratic process. We aim to teach pupils how to argue and defend points of view and to understand the importance of team work.

Examples of how we do this:

- Pupil voice is heard through class discussion and assemblies. Children know their opinions are valued and can influence change.
- Questionnaires are distributed annually to ascertain pupil and community views. We use the outcomes of the surveys to make improvements in outcomes for pupils.
- Plan opportunities to learn about the parliamentary and democratic system in Britain through our topics and through separate lessons.
- Help pupils to express their views in a variety of situations.
- Provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of, and promote respect for, British institutions.
- Pupils vote for what class novel to read and what clubs should be run.

The Rule of Law

It is important that our pupils recognise the difference between right and wrong and apply this to their own lives. We encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behavior and we challenge them to resolve conflict. We ensure pupils understand that living under the rule of law protects them and is essential to their well-being and safety.

Examples of how we do this:

- The importance of laws, including those governing the individual, the class and the whole school, are consistently reinforced throughout the school year. The children understand these laws as rules. We ensure these rules are fair and clear and pupils agree to these at the start of each year.
- Help pupils to distinguish right from wrong through our behaviour systems and we celebrate when they make the right choices.
- Arrange visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help to promote the rule of law.

Individual Liberty

Here at Tilstock everyone is encouraged to play their own unique part and this is celebrated. Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to develop independence and make personal choices, knowing that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment.

Examples of how we do this:

- Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely. We do this through E-safety lessons, PSHE lessons and SRE week.
- Pupils are encouraged to express their own feelings and views during RE lessons in a safe environment underpinned by mutual respect.
- Residential visits in Years 5 and 6 encourage children to make choices and celebrate their personal achievements.
- Pupils can choose which after clubs they attend.
- Pupils can choose the level of challenge in lessons.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to display their talents and achievements.
- Support pupils to develop their self-esteem and self-confidence.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with Other Faiths and Beliefs

We value and respect all pupils, staff and visitors here at Tilstock. Through class activities and assembly themes pupils develop a good understanding of what respect means and how it is shown. We encourage pupils to reflect on their own beliefs and respect the faiths, values and beliefs of others.

Examples of how we do this:

- Pupils learn about different faiths, cultures and ways of life through Topic, PSHE and RE lessons.
- Within our RE curriculum we study the background and practices of a range of faiths, including Christian, Muslim and Jewish faiths.
- Celebrate a range of festivals, such as Diwali, Holi and Chinese New Year.
- Encourage pupils to identify the similarities between their beliefs and practices and

those of others.

- Promote respect for individuals' differences.
- Encourage pupils to challenge prejudice and discriminatory behaviour.

OUTCOMES

Through our work and partnerships pupils will gain a good understanding of the values that underpin the privileges, rights, responsibilities and duties of citizenship. We will equip young people with the knowledge, skills and understanding to make a positive contribution to the harmony of our local and national community. We will develop responsible young people who support and positively value community cohesion. This policy will make a key contribution to the school's positive ethos. The head teacher and Governing Body will assess the impact of this policy and monitor its operation.

Revised and adopted by the Governing Body