

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

# **HIGHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

British Values Statement

September 2019

## **British Values Statement**

### **Introduction.**

This statement draws upon the DfE publication “Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of Social Moral Spiritual and Cultural Education in Schools” (2014)

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/380595/SMSC\\_Guidance\\_Maintained\\_Schools.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMSC_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf)

It takes into account elements of the Education Act (2002) which states that schools should provide a broad and balanced curriculum in order to positive SMSC for all pupils.

It also takes into account the RSE Consultation outcomes (Feb 2019) produced by the DfE that states schools should “help foster respect for others and difference.” We comply with the guidance that states the content of any RSE Curriculum “must be taught sensitively and inclusively, with respect for the backgrounds and beliefs of pupils and parents, while always with the aim of providing pupils with the knowledge they need to prepare them to play a full part in society as responsible citizens.”

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/780768/Government\\_Response\\_to\\_RSE\\_Consultation.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/780768/Government_Response_to_RSE_Consultation.pdf)

This statement was developed by the staff team in order to recognise that the school gives all pupils a voice that is listened to, have a respect for rules and the law, are encouraged to have a tolerance and mutual respect for themselves and others in order to make choices and embrace all opportunities that they are offered. This is set out in 5 principles which make our British Value Statement;

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance.

This statement replaces the former Community Cohesion Policy written in January 2011.

## **Highgate Primary British Value Statement**

In our school we actively promote British Values in order to prepare all children to be responsible and respectful members of the community. Examples of this are explained below.

**Democracy** - Pupils have the opportunity to share their views, opinions and suggestions through our Class and School Council meetings, election of school councillors and making contributions within the curriculum. Pupils contribute to school evaluation and development through questionnaires.

**The Rule of Law** - Children are introduced to our three Whole School Rules from the Early Years, developing an understanding of the importance of laws in a fair and just society. Rules are discussed both in class and assemblies and the concept of fair play is promoted in PE lessons. Children understand that they have a responsibility to follow the rules and that there are consequences when rules are broken.

**Individual Liberty** - Children are encouraged to have high aspirations, to make choices and to participate fully in the opportunities that our school offers. We strive to ensure that children can enjoy and achieve in all aspects of school life regardless of any barriers that they may face. Children are regularly taught strategies to keep themselves safe.

**Mutual Respect** - To ensure that children understand how to show respect for themselves, for others, for the rules of the school and society, respect is one of our core values. It is important that our children show respect for all members of their community, including those who are different to them in terms of age, needs, beliefs, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and culture. Children are introduced to role models from a range of backgrounds.

**Tolerance** - In our multi-cultural school children learn about and celebrate different cultures and faiths through Festivals and Celebrations i.e Diwali, Assemblies and RE lessons. Opportunities to learn about the lives and beliefs of other cultures and faiths are taught through the whole school curriculum. Assemblies and Anti-bullying week are opportunities to address prejudice and its effects on society and individuals.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

The governing body is responsible for ensuring that the school complies with legislation, and that this policy and its related procedures and strategies are implemented.

The headteacher is responsible for implementing the policy (alongside the strategic development committee); for ensuring that all staff are aware of their responsibilities and are given appropriate training and support; and for taking appropriate action in any cases of unlawful discrimination.

All staff are expected to:

- promote an inclusive and collaborative ethos in their classroom
- deal with any prejudice-related incidents that may occur
- identify and challenge bias and stereotyping in the curriculum
- support pupils in their class for whom English is an additional language
- keep up-to-date with equalities legislation relevant to their work.

### **Accountability**

While it is understood that outside agencies such as OFSTED must consider how the pupils at Highgate develop their understanding of Social Moral Spiritual and Cultural

issues, the school recognises that in order to develop our young people as rounded citizens, it is essential that we embrace the five principles of British Values.

Pupil voice is collated in a number of different ways to ensure we meet the needs of our future community. Although not an exhaustive list, pupil opinion is considered and recorded through the use of questionnaires, pupil interviews, school and class council, and older pupils developing their responsibilities by taking a lead in activities such as becoming Play-leaders.

### **Information and resources**

We ensure that the content of this policy is known to all staff and governors and stakeholders through a statement included on our website.

<http://www.highgate.leics.sch.uk/info.htm>

All staff and governors have access to a selection of resources which discuss and explain concepts of equality, diversity, religion and community cohesion in appropriate detail.

All children will be taught through access to a set of age-appropriate picture books for each year group about equality, diversity, tolerance and mutual respect as part of the No Outsiders programme.

### **Religious observance**

We respect the religious beliefs and practice of all staff, pupils and parents, and comply with reasonable requests relating to religious observance and practice.

**Written by Mr T. Jenkinson**

**Sept 2016 and reviewed Sept 2019**

**To be reviewed Sept 2022**