

Villiers Primary School

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British Values Policy

Work hard. Be kind.

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The Department for Education has introduced a statutory duty for schools to promote British Values more actively from September 2014, and to ensure they are taught in schools.

Villiers Primary School is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has 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.

It follows 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 similar. Villiers Primary School is dedicated to preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its students.

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

The five key British Values are:

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

The academy uses strategies within the national curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for students. The examples that follow show some of the many ways Villiers Primary School seeks to instil British Values.

Democracy

We ensure that children are well prepared for the democratic process that rules our country. We have an elected school council where children have the opportunity to promote themselves as a voice for their classmates, Our election process mirrors the voting system that children can contribute to once they are eighteen. Children present a 'manifesto' to their fellow classmates, pupils then cast their votes, using voting booths in a secret ballot, votes are totalled and the school council from Y1-Y6 is formed.

All children have access to suggestion boxes throughout the school that are regularly monitored by the school council and in their weekly meetings decisions are made based on the suggestions collected. School council then will formulate their proposals which they present to the Senior Leadership Team. Many school wide suggestions have gone on to become school policy and procedures.

The rule of law

Our school has an agreed code of conduct and children are regularly asked to consider the reasoning behind these rules. Regular assemblies reinforce children's responsibilities and give children an opportunity to put the code of conduct into a context of everyday school life and how they tie in to providing pupils with a moral compass. There is a clear set of rewards and sanctions in place and children are encouraged to promote the code of conduct through a housepoint system that rewards good behaviour and regular attendance. As a whole school, children, staff and governors contributed to a 'wordle' that highlighted the qualities that we all believe make positive, successful learners.

Individual liberty

Our lessons are designed to ensure that children are able to lead learning as they are encouraged to explore the objectives taught and through purposeful talk children can design a template for learning. All children know that they can discuss any concerns of bullying and the school is swift to investigate and offer support for both victim and perpetrator to ensure all children feel safe. We celebrate anti-bullying week and there is always an awareness raising activity for children to participate in.

Mutual respect

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around core values such as 'Respect', and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. These ideas are reiterated through the school and classroom rules, as well as our behaviour policy. Additional Pastoral manager support is given to individual children to help develop self – esteem and the concept of respect. We encourage all children to make choices that benefit their own life prospects and shows respect to others.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

We are a multi-faith school where each child is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race and we teach the children to treat people in the wider community in the same way. Cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum. We place an emphasis on providing encounters and participation in events and celebrations to broaden all pupils' experiences and awareness of others.

Every child participates in a Diwali celebration assembly within school and we also have a whole school Carol service at Christmas time held at the local church. Through assemblies children learn about and participate in a number of religious festivals including

Hanukah, Chinese New Year, Harvest, Vaisakhi and Holi.

Our worship helps all pupils to find out about themselves and others linking their lives to the communities in which they belong. Local faith leaders lead our children in worship within school on a regular basis.

Our staff work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to ensure that the pupils are happy, well cared for and enabled to learn the skills they need to live a fulfilling life as part of their community.