



British Values Statement

In support of the D of E document: *Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools, Departmental advice for maintained schools, November 2016*

At St Mark's, Elm Tree C Voluntary Aided Church of England Primary School we strongly believe in upholding British values through all aspects of our school provision.

The five British values that the Government has identified for schools to focus on are:-

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs
- Developing personal and social responsibility
- Respect for British Institutions

We uphold the British value of Democracy by:-

- facilitating a democratic process for electing school parliament and the running of the council.
- teaching about the democratic process in Britain, at both a local and national level. We teach about communities and pressure groups, how children can participate in these and make changes to life at all levels from local to global.
- Electing house captains to promote the democratic ethos of our school
- Holding regular team events to promote tolerance and democracy

We uphold the British value of the Rule of Law by:-

- teaching children an understanding of human rights.
- implementing our school and Golden Rules which have clear and agreed statements, and ensuring that the children know their own right and respect the rights of others.
- teaching children to learn about the process of law-making and the part that citizens can play in that process.
- implementing our procedures and protocols for dealing with the very rare incidents of racial, homophobic and other forms of discrimination, which demonstrates to pupils that we take these issues very seriously, mirroring the attitudes of British society.
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We uphold the British value of individual liberty and work to identify and combat discrimination by:

- teaching our RE curriculum, which inculcates values of understanding, tolerance and respect for others, including those of other faiths.
- teaching children an understanding of human rights, through worship, ethos and class lessons.
- providing our extra-curricular provision, exemplified by our Inclusion Mark Gold.
- holding discussions in RE, English and other subjects, which allow children to develop respect for the opinions, values and beliefs of others.
- The overt inclusion of all, including those of other faiths and religions, exemplified in our vision statement: **'We welcome everyone'**

We uphold the British value of developing personal and social responsibility by:

- expecting children to responsibility in many ways in school including being playground leaders.
- expecting children to take responsibility in every class for a variety of roles which assist in the running of the classroom and beyond. Y6 children are prefects, Y5 children take responsibility at lunchtime. Younger children increase their increasing understanding of responsibility for community over time.
- encouraging children to have responsibility for their own possessions, behaviour and work, both at school and at home and to always do their personal best in all aspects of school life.
- training staff to deliver information about keeping safe on the internet to all our children and holding information sessions for parents about this.
- Promoting team work and inclusion through team and house events

We uphold the British value of respect for British Institutions by:-

- celebrating many British festivals and special events, e.g. World War 1 week, November 7th, Christmas, Easter, World Book Day, Children in Need, Red-nose day, Harvest Festival, Sport relief. Supporting local charities and raising money for worthy causes, locally and nationally.
- regularly inviting representatives from various groups, such as Police, charities and the local church to visit our school and talk to the children in both lessons and worship.
- teaching about the structure and work of Parliament, keeping children informed of major and minor events which can be discussed.

In all our provision, both academic and otherwise, we endeavour to inculcate an understanding of British values and a strong desire to uphold them both now and as future British citizens.

This statement has been agreed by:-

Governors

Teaching and non-teaching Staff

School Council

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September 2016

To be reviewed September 2017