



British Values Statement

BRITISH VALUES STATEMENT

At Watling Primary School, we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles through our vision, values, rules, and curriculum. We have a duty to prepare our children for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. We value the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all pupils and families and engage in a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these.

The Department for Education states that there is a need:

“To create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to 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”.

The Department for Education defines British Values as follows:

- respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process
- respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- support for equality of opportunity for all
- support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

Our school reflects British values in all that we do. We aim to nurture our children on their journey through life so they can grow into safe, caring, democratic, responsible and tolerant adults who make a positive difference to British society and to the world. We encourage our children to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world. Wherever possible, we take a global approach to learning by introducing themes from the perspective of other people in other countries.

At Watling Primary School, we actively promote British values in the following ways:

DEMOCRACY

As children progress through the school, they are given opportunities to become members of the School Council and Eco Council and to apply to take on additional responsibilities.

All children are encouraged to debate topics of interest, express their views and make a meaningful contribution to the running of the school on matters that directly involve pupils.

Children have the opportunity to have their voices heard at all times and, on particular matters of interest, through targeted pupil questionnaires and pupil surveys.

The principle of democracy is explored in the curriculum as well as during assemblies and special days.

RULE OF LAW

Our school follows 3Bs for behaviour (Be safe, Be kind, Be respectful). These rules are integral to our learning and ethos every day.

School rules and expectations are clear, fair and regularly promoted. Our Behaviour Policy is followed consistently to reinforce these messages.

Pupils are always helped to distinguish right from wrong, in the classroom, during assemblies and on the playground.

Pupils are regularly reminded about their 'Rights and Responsibilities' and about how these are linked.

Pupils are encouraged to respect the law at all times. We look forward to arranging visits from authorities such as the Police, Fire Service, Ambulance, etc. to help reinforce this message.

Our Behaviour Policy states a zero tolerance approach to any form of aggression, abuse or violence, which extends to all members of the school community.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.

Through a variety of choices in learning e.g. level of challenge, how work is recorded, participation in extra-curricular clubs, etc. pupils are given the freedom to make their own decisions.

Teaching at our school places an emphasis on every child's right to have their own thoughts and solutions. Children are strongly encouraged to develop independence in learning and to think for themselves.

Pupils are supported to develop their self-awareness, self-esteem and self-confidence.

Pupils are encouraged to celebrate their individuality.

Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and all members of the school community reinforce the importance of making the right choices.

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 PSHE lessons.

Vulnerable pupils are protected and stereotypes challenged. A strong anti-bullying culture is embedded in the school and any form of bullying is challenged and addressed.

Pupils will have opportunities to take on additional roles and responsibilities as they progress through the school e.g. job squad, playground leaders, School Council and Eco Council representatives, etc.

MUTUAL RESPECT AND TOLERANCE OF THOSE WITH DIFFERENT FAITHS AND BELIEFS

Pupils are taught that respect is shown to everyone in our school community. Adults in school act as positive role models to reinforce this.

Pupils are helped to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life.

Pupils are taught to understand their place in a culturally diverse society and are given opportunities to experience such diversity.

All members of our school community are expected to challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying are regularly held.

Links and visits are promoted with local faith communities and places of worship. e.g. Members of different faiths or religions are invited to school to share their knowledge and enhance learning within assemblies and in class.

Through the PSHE and RE curriculums, pupils are encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations.

We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which different major religions are studied and respected. Global dimension work is included in many of our humanities topics and discrete language lessons. These curriculum topics offer children the chance to reflect on our core values and British values.

We aim to celebrate our differences through special celebrations and events.