

# British Values Policy

WOODSLEE PRIMARY SCHOOL

BRITISH VALUES POLICY

SEPTEMBER 2015

## **Woodslee Primary School British Values**

At Woodslee Primary School, we actively promote British Values as defined under the Ofsted guidance 2014, through our school vision, ethos, agreed rules, curriculum and teaching:

‘ensure that they and the school promote tolerance of and respect for people of all faiths (or those of no faith), cultures and lifestyles; and support and help, through their words, actions and influence within the school and more widely in the community, to prepare children and young people positively for life in modern Britain.’

At Woodslee Primary School, we value the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all our pupils and families and undertake a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these. Such experiences, both inside and outside of the classroom, teach tolerance and respect for the differences but also the similarities in our local and national community and the wider world. Through the National Curriculum and our curriculum offer, we plan and deliver lessons, learning, trips and experiences which make strong, explicit links to the British Empire. We actively challenge children, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including ‘extremist’ views. The government defines these values as:

- Democracy
- Rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths

### **Promoting British Values**

The DfE have recently reinforced the 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 government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and these values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister this year. At Woodslee Primary School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

#### **Democracy:**

Democracy is richly embedded within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, pupil questionnaires, and feedback to Senior Team. Our school behaviour and values policies involve rewards and sanctions; this is shared through all aspects of school life and also shared with parents, carers and children from Foundation Stage to Year 6.

#### **The Rule of Law:**

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school collective worship time. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service are a regular part of our calendar events and help reinforce this message.

## **Individual Liberty:**

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for all pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and an empowering approach through the education. 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 E-Safety and PSHCE lessons. Pupils are given the freedom to make a wide range of choices from attending extra-curricular clubs to supporting fund raising events.

## **Mutual Respect:**

As a school which holds values at the core of its ethos, our school Values and Behaviour policies have evolved around Core Values such as 'Respect', and pupils have been part of discussions and collective worship related to what this means and how it is shown. Through our PSHE work and school values, we learn about a new 'Value' every month. It is shared with home through newsletters and website information. Adults throughout the school model, demonstrate and promote respect for others as do older children who have suitable, age related, tasks and responsibilities and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour. Staff follow a Code of Conduct to reinforce this.

## **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

At Woodslee Primary School we are a culturally rich and diverse school where children have unique opportunities to learn from each other by sharing and celebrating their different faiths and cultures. Collective worship and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed up and supported by learning in RE and PSHCE. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

### **To promote these values:**

- We have an elected School Council where pupil's voices are heard.
- Our collective worship calendar actively promotes these values through the use of SMSC and RE objectives. We have visiting faith leaders who conduct regular assemblies and we also attend local churches for services at Harvest and Christmas. We also use the local places of worship for visits to enhance the curriculum.
- We celebrate and support many local, national and international initiatives to promote the values of tolerance, empathy and challenge stereotypes.
- Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police, Fire Service, etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. In the broad and balanced curriculum that we deliver there is opportunity to discuss these.
- Pupils are actively encouraged and supported to make informed choices, to know and exercise their rights and personal freedom, but safely for example through our e-safety policy.
- Our positive behaviour policy encourages tolerance and mutual respect.
- As a whole school, we have celebrated and marked special local and national occasions such as the Olympics, St. George's Day, and commemoration of the First World War,
- We take part in a whole school Remembrance service each year.

Please refer to the power point on our website to develop further knowledge of how we deliver and promote British values in our Foundation Stage and across the whole school. September 2015.

Review Date: September 2016.