

# Promoting British Values

Wintringham Primary Academy is committed to working closely and in harmony with its community and celebrating the diversity of the UK. We aim to prepare children for life in modern Britain and to ensure that our school ethos, curriculum and approaches to teaching and learning reflect and promote British values.

We recognise that these values are not exclusive to being British and that they have come to be accepted throughout the democratic world as the method of creating an orderly society in which individual members can feel safe, valued and can contribute to for the good of themselves and others.

We understand the role that our school has in helping prevent radicalisation and supporting our children in developing a world view recognising Britain's place within it. The four British values are:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

## Democracy

Many of our school routines are built upon the concept of democracy. All children have the opportunity as an individual, as a member of a group and a member of a class, to influence decision making and to have a voice. They understand that they must use this voice responsibly. Children are regularly consulted both formally and informally about how their school might be improved. They see the example that is set with staff working cooperatively with parents, governors and each other to make the school the best it can be.

Children within the school have key roles and responsibilities, including in the school council. Classes vote for the people they would like to take on these responsibilities and we discuss the importance of this. For example, the school council were involved in selecting equipment to playtimes. They discussed with their class what sort of things they would like and then ordered and sorted the new equipment.

The school council applies the democratic process and information is fed to and from the council throughout the year.

During national elections we hold our own mock elections and discuss what it means to represent a political party and how a voting system works.

Our curriculum also educates children about different systems of democracy around the world, both past and present. For example, in History, our secondary concepts are power, society and conflict.

### The Rule of Law

Children in our school understand the need for rules to make ours a happy and secure environment. Our behaviour policy is shared and understood and this provides a basis on which we discuss other laws and rules and how they apply. The concept of rules is discussed with reference to home, school and the wider community. The importance of law is reinforced through our curriculum and is further enhanced by visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service. Discussions and activities about the rules we apply in school and how they appear in practice are discussed in assemblies, in PSHE lessons and throughout the children's learning.

### Individual Liberty

The rights of every child are at the centre of our ethos. Children also recognise the importance of boundaries too. Throughout our school, we encourage children to make responsible choices whether in relation to their behaviour or our teaching and learning. Independent thinking and learning are encouraged and there are frequent opportunities for children to make their own choices. We place an emphasis on respecting difference and valuing creativity. There are opportunities throughout the school day for children to have the freedom to make choices in their activities, particularly in EYFS and KS1, and in extra-curricular activities.

### Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Every individual is respected in our school and our actions towards one another reflect this. We welcome difference and diversity and aim to create understanding of how this adds to the richness of our community. We aim to do more than 'tolerate' those with different faiths and beliefs. We believe that exploring and understanding other people's faiths and beliefs are rewarding experiences and help us understand our own faiths and beliefs better. Our PSHE curriculum looks at friendship and what it means to be a good friend. We talk about relationships and our place within the family, the community and society. Our RE curriculum follows the Agreed Syllabus for Cambridgeshire and teaches about a range of faiths, religions and cultures. Children are familiar with the principles which different religions hold and explore the main world religions as outlined in the Agreed Syllabus.

