

Broadbent Fold Primary School and Nursery



British Values Policy December 2020

In line with the Equalities Act (2010) we aim to ensure that any child, irrespective of protected characteristics (These are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.) is treated fairly and with respect. The law states that the public sector equality duty includes a general duty to, "Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not." This policy can be adapted to suit individual needs.

Philosophy

Broadbent Fold Primary School and Nursery is committed to serving its community. For Broadbent Fold Primary School and Nursery the term 'community' has a number of dimensions including:

- the school community: the children it serves, their families and the school's staff and Governors.
- the community within which the school is located, the school is within the community of Dukinfield and the people who live or work around Greater Manchester.
- the community of Britain: - all schools are by definition part of this community, and
- the global community - formed by EU and international links.

As a small primary school we are conscious of the need to continually widen our perspective to ensure that the best decisions are made for our children. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith nature of the United Kingdom and understand the crucial role we play in promoting these values. Broadbent Fold Primary School and Nursery approaches the promotion of fundamental British Values in line with the Government's PREVENT theme of the anti-terrorist strategy CONTEST.

These British Values are:

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

Each is defined below and placed within the school's context through the use of examples. It is, without question, everyone's duty to ensure they do not undermine these fundamental British Values as detailed in the current Teacher Standards Part Two: Personal and Professional Conduct. At Broadbent Fold Primary School and Nursery we feel that the promotion of British Values will ensure young people understand the importance of respect and will leave school as well prepared as is possible, in modern Britain. Through our work, children will gain a good understanding of the values that underpin the privileges, rights, responsibilities and duties of citizenship. We will aim to equip young people with the knowledge, skills and understanding to make a positive contribution to the harmony of our local and national community. We aim to develop responsible young people who support and positively value community cohesion. This policy will make a key contribution to the school's positive ethos. The head teacher and Governing Body will assess the impact of this

statement and monitor its operation. It should be viewed in conjunction with the school's other policies especially the Equal Opportunities Policy, PSHE Policy and Behaviour Policy.

Aims and objectives

Through our policy and procedures, we aim to ensure that our children have:

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.
- An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety.
- An understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies, such as the police and the army, can be held to account through Parliament, others, such as the courts, maintain independence.
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law.
- An acceptance that people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.
- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body is responsible for the overall implementation of this policy and for ensuring that the British Values are upheld throughout the school.

The headteacher will ensure that all teachers and staff are aware of the requirement to uphold British Values through the methods outlined in this policy and will ensure that the appropriate procedures are in place to carry out these methods.

The headteacher is responsible for disciplining staff who do not uphold British Values, in line with the Disciplinary Policy and procedure.

Teachers and support staff will ensure that their lessons are inclusive of, and sensitive to, the fundamental British Values.

Children are expected to treat each other and staff with respect, in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.

Democracy

Democracy is embedded throughout our school curriculum. Children are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Children also have the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our School Council and regular pupil questionnaires. The election of School Council members is solely based on pupil votes, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action.

Children have numerous opportunities to have their views heard, including through:

- Pupil questionnaires
- The school council

Our children are encouraged to have an input into what and how they learn to instil an understanding of democracy for their future.

The rule of law

The importance of laws whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced. This is echoed in our school Values of 'Ready, Respectful and Safe', which are deeply embedded in our work every day. Each class also discusses right from wrong and sets their own class rules that are clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every class member is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment. Our children are taught the values and reasons behind the laws which govern and protect us, the responsibilities this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Broadbent Fold has a high regard for the laws that govern and protect the school, the responsibilities that this involves, and the consequences when laws are broken. All children are involved in the creation of school rules to inspire them with this understanding.

Children are taught these values and the reasons behind laws, whether they govern the class, the school or the country, that are essential for their wellbeing and safety. Children are allowed healthy debate in class on the matter to encourage recognition of the importance of the law.

We understand the importance of promoting British Values through a comprehensive and unprejudiced curriculum.

Individual liberty

Within school, children 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 our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. Our children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, examples of this can be clearly seen in our e-safety and P.S.H.E. lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge, or of participation in our numerous extra-curricular activities, our children are given the freedom to make choices and encouraged to act responsibly and show initiative.

At Broadbent Fold we create a safe and supportive environment that is fostered throughout the school, where children are actively encouraged to make choices. Whether it is choosing a challenging task or an extra-curricular club, children have the freedom to base their choices on their interests.

Children are taught about their rights and personal freedoms and are encouraged and advised on how to exercise these safely, for instance through teaching on e-safety and PSHE lessons.

Mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Our core value of Respect ensures tolerance of those who have different faiths and beliefs. It enhances children's understanding of different faiths and beliefs through religious education studies, P.S.H.E. work, welcoming visitors from other schools in order to celebrate differences and enjoying a depth of study during themed weeks. Beliefs, traditions and customs from around the world are studied, with visitors being invited into our school to enrich and extend understanding. Through these activities our children gain an enhanced understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

Respect forms a core pillar of the school's ethos. Children are treated with respect and learn to treat each other and all members of staff with respect.

This is reinforced through the school's Behaviour Policy and posters throughout the school promoting mutual respect.

The school recognises that tolerance is achieved through a child's knowledge and understanding of their place in a culturally-diverse society and the opportunity for children to experience such diversity.

Throughout the year, assemblies are held focussing on bullying, with reference to prejudice-based bullying where discussion is encouraged.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs is supported by the RE and PSHE curriculum.

The school encourages its children from different faiths or religions to share their knowledge with their peers to enhance their learning.

Challenging views that go against British Values

The school openly challenges opinions and behaviour, demonstrated by both staff and children, that go against British Values.

The school adopts a zero-tolerance approach towards discriminatory and prejudicial behaviour. Any child displaying this behaviour will be disciplined in line with the Behaviour Policy.

Referrals regarding children that may be at risk of radicalisation will be made in accordance with the school's Prevent Duty Policy.

Involvement in key local and national events:

Each term we identify experiences for the children to enable them to understand fundamental British Values, such as, Armistice Day, Black History Month and International Women's Day. (See our Experience Charter)

We ensure that general elections are included in our PSHE and assembly topics.

Through talking to our community we ensure that we move forward in a mutually respectful and tolerant way. Our children perform in a nativity play and sing carols. We also celebrate Eid, Diwali and Chinese New Year. We invite parents in to talk to staff to give us a greater understanding of different faiths but work together to ensure we emphasise not what is different but what we all have in common, our School Core Values and the values of modern Britain.

Staff training

Members of staff are made aware of their responsibilities in terms of British Values during their induction and through additional training.

Staff will be offered the opportunity for further training on upholding the values in this policy.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including but not limited to, the following:

- Equality Act 2010
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014
- Ofsted (2018) 'School inspection handbook'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Prevent Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Disciplinary Policy and Procedure

Policy review

This policy is reviewed annually by the headteacher and the governing board.

The next scheduled review date for this policy is December 2021.