



PAULL PRIMARY SCHOOL
BRITISH VALUES POLICY 2019

At Paull Primary School we aim to provide a safe, secure and stimulating environment within which all children feel cared for, supported and happy.

We aim to prepare children for adult life through developing an enthusiasm for learning and a willingness to persevere in the face of challenge.

British values

In June 2014, David Cameron emphasised the important role that British values can play in education. Further, how well a school promotes such values is an aspect of Ofsted's inspection process.

Although this is something which is developing in its significance for schools, it is not something new at Paull Primary. British values are promoted in so much of what we do, not least during our school assemblies and Religious Education.

As well as actively promoting British values, the opposite also applies: we would actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British values, including 'extremist' views.

The term 'British values' might be slightly misleading in that these values are integral to so many countries throughout the world as they differ in no way from the values of most western European countries, for example.

Below are just a few examples of how we promote British values.

Being part of Britain

As a school, we value and celebrate the diverse heritages of people in our closer and wider community. Alongside this, we value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, this means that we celebrate traditions, such as customs in the course of the year; for example, Remembrance during the Autumn term, and what could be more British than a trip to a pantomime around Christmas time! We also have close a relationship with St Andrews our local church meaning our children are involved in the traditions surrounding Harvest, Christmas and Easter.

The children are given a weekly 'Talk Homework' which is linked to British Values. This is delivered by the class teacher as part of a class assembly. Parents are encouraged to discuss the talk homework with their children.

Further, children learn about being part of Britain from different specific perspectives. Two specific examples of when we teach about being part of Britain are:

Geographically: we ensure that children have a better understanding of what Britain is, learning more about:

- its capital cities and counties, its rivers and mountains
- how 'Great Britain' differs from 'England' and 'the United Kingdom'
- where Britain is in relation to the rest of Europe and other countries in the world

Historically: We also explore British history where the children learn about an aspect of life and how this has developed and changed over time. The actual topic depends on the interests of the children (especially in EYFS) but might include inventions and discoveries, different periods of time or houses, or medicine.

Democracy

Children, parents and staff have many opportunities for their voices to be heard at Paull Primary. Democracy is central to how we operate.

An obvious example is our School Council. Made up of representatives from each class, the School Council meets regularly to discuss issues raised by the different classes.

The council is able to make decisions within the school; in the past, the School Council has planned children in need and thought about how to improve playtimes. The Council are also actively involved in recruitment often asking questions of prospective members of staff.

Pupils 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. We encourage pupils to take ownership of not only their school but also of their own learning and progress. Setting targets encourages a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility and is demonstrated on a daily basis by our pupils.

Rule of law:

The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern our school or our country, are referred to and reinforced often, such as in assemblies and when reflecting on behaviour choices. At the start of the school year, each class discusses the school rules which are a set of principles 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.

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.

These values are reinforced in different ways:

- visits from authorities such as the police and fire service

- during Religious Education, when rules for particular faiths are thought about
- during other school subjects, where there is respect and appreciation for different rules - in a sports lesson, for example.

Individual liberty:

Alongside rules and laws, we promote freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs. Through the provision of a safe, supportive environment and empowering education, we provide boundaries for our young pupils to make choices safely; for example:

- choices about what learning challenge or activity
- choices about how they record their learning
- choices around the participation in extra-curricular activities

Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are taught how to exercise these safely, such as in our e-safety lessons, circle time and assemblies.

Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different beliefs:

Paull Primary is not in an area which is culturally diverse however we are proud to promote and celebrate different backgrounds and beliefs. Mutual respect is at the heart of our aims and ethos - *To develop understanding of and respect for a wide range of religious values, languages and cultural traditions and different ways of life.*

Our pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to *everyone*, whatever differences we may have, and to *everything*, whether it is a school resource or a religious belief. Children learn that their behaviour choices have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community should treat each other with respect.

Specific examples of how we at Paull Primary enhance pupils understanding and respect for different faiths and beliefs are:

- through Religious Education and other lessons where we might develop awareness and appreciation of other cultures - in English through fiction and in Art by considering culture from other parts of the world, for example
- enjoying learning about different celebrations where sometimes we will celebrate and enjoy learning about the differences in countries and cultures around the world such as Diwali and Chinese new year.

Unfortunately no school can guarantee that there will never be instances which are contrary to this value. At Paull Primary, such instances are extremely rare and are treated seriously in line with our Behaviour Policy.

Approved by Governing Body _____

Date _____

Chair of Governors

Date _____

Headteacher