

## **Promoting British Values within Forefield Junior School**

Forefield Junior School is committed to serving its community and surrounding areas. It recognizes the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom, and therefore those it serves. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalization by those wishing to improperly, or illegally, influence them.

The Government emphasizes that schools are required to ensure that key 'British Values' are taught in all UK schools. We recognise that upholding and supporting British values should align with our duty to promote Spiritual, Moral, Cultural, Mental and Physical Development of our pupils. Specifically we strive to ensure that through guaranteeing high quality Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development, we can actively demonstrate that Forefield Junior School is actively promoting fundamental British values.

The government set out its definition of British values in the 'Prevent Strategy' ([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf)) as:

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

We believe that both our Code of Conduct (shared within our home school agreement) and our explicit "Caring Rules for Forefield" underpin the fundamental British values:

- Respect ourselves and each other
- Look after our school and everything in it
- Respect the property of others
- Work, talk and walk around quietly
- Call everyone by their own name
- Listen to others quietly and politely
- Finish our work carefully and always do our best
- Remember to use the words "excuse me", "please", "thank you" and "you're welcome".

Through our Code of Conduct we have a whole school approach to challenge opinions or behaviours that are contrary to British values. Pupils are consistently taught to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance. Pupils understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law.

Our school's ethos and teaching supports the rule of English civil and criminal law and we do not teach anything that undermines it. We fully recognise that if schools teach about religious law, particular care should be taken to explore the relationship between state and religious law. Pupils should be made aware of the difference between the law of the land and religious law.

The school does, through a wide range of activities, secure the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs standards and uses strategies within the National Curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for children. The list below outlines samples of when and where such British Values are shared. The list is not exhaustive, and represents only some of what we do.

**National Curriculum Subjects:** We develop the skill base required to access/share information, make/express decisions and apply themselves to society and the world. These include the understanding and use of money, effective writing and reading skills, collaborative work, discussing and researching ideas and concepts, and gaining a broad and balanced understanding of the society in which we live. Aspects of study beyond core skills include the historical and geographical context of the United Kingdom, incorporating local and national progress, growth and development, as well as international comparisons.

**Religious Education:** Together we strive to gain a greater understanding of religious diversity and practices, covering the key religions represented in the UK (Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism). Our planning for the subject is directed by the 'Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) – Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education'.

**Physical Education:** We promote the concept of 'fair play', following and developing rules, inclusion, celebrating and rewarding success and being magnanimous in defeat. We participate in activities that promote affinity and affiliation with others.

**Whole school daily acts of collective worship/assembly:** We share stories, images, events, music and expectations that, with clarity and precision, promote the principles and moralities which underpin British Values. Our daily timetabled assemblies vary in the methodology of delivery in order to secure the children's interest and understanding and are designed to impact on pupils regardless of knowledge, experience or cognitive maturity. As a 'community school', 'collective worship' is nondenominational and recognizes that those attending may have a wide range of faiths, or none. It is however, in line with regulation and is "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character".

**School Council:** We promote democratic processes, fostering the concept and application of freedom of speech and group action to address needs and concerns. Key to this is the concept of holding others to account, including those in positions of authority and influence.

**Governing Body:** The Forefield Governing Body promotes the advancement of autonomous yet representative procedures and practices, adopting the concept and application of freedom of speech and group action to challenge yet promote the best interests of Forefield Junior School and the welfare and safeguarding of all pupils. Key to this is the concept of holding others to account, including those in positions of authority and influence.

**Employees of Forefield Junior School:** Those working within our school know that actively promoting British values means challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to fundamental British values. Attempts to promote systems that undermine fundamental British values are completely at odds with our duty to provide high quality SMSC. Moreover, as part of Performance Management, teachers know that The Teachers' Standards

([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/301107/Teachers\\_Standards.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/301107/Teachers_Standards.pdf)) expect practitioners to uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school. These include not undermining fundamental British values.

Should you feel that the school is not meeting this requirement, you should contact the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher to express your concerns. Likewise, if you feel that anyone working at the school is intentionally or otherwise undermining these values, you should report this to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. If you feel that the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher collectively are not meeting these requirements you should use the Schools' Complaints Procedure or contact OFSTED on 0300 123 1231.

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