

# British Values



Reviewer: Catherine Assink – Head of School

Reviewed: October 2019

Approved by Local Advisory Board (LAB): October 2019

Due for review: October 2020

## **Legal framework**

This policy will have consideration for the following guidance:

- Ofsted, School Inspection Handbook, 2015.
- DfE, Improving the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of pupils, 2013.

This policy is carried out in conjunction with our following other policies:

- Behaviour Policy
- Prevent Duty Policy

## **Background**

At Grange Academy we value the diversity of backgrounds of all pupils, families and wider the school community.

The Department for Education states that there is a 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 Department for Education defines British Values as follows:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Our school reflects British values in all that we do. We encourage our children to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world.

## **Roles and responsibilities**

- Grange Academy understands the importance of promoting British values through a comprehensive and unprejudiced curriculum.
- The Head of School will ensure that all 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.
- Teachers and learning support staff will ensure that their lessons are inclusive of, and sensitive to, the fundamental British values.
- Pupils are expected to treat each other and staff with respect, in line with the school’s Behaviour Policy.

## **The key British Values at Grange Academy**

At Grange Academy, we actively promote British values in the following ways:

### **a. Democracy**

- Election of Pupil Parliament.
- Pupil voice is addressed through pupil focus groups, questionnaires and class discussions.
- Informal voting on issues within form times and lessons.
- Pupils attend their person centred EHCP review meeting and their opinions are shared in the most appropriate and meaningful way as possible.
- There is explicit consideration of democracy within PSE, RSE and all lessons.
- The principles of democracy are explored in the whole curriculum e.g. turn taking, sharing and collaboration, as well as during assemblies and special projects.
- Pupil Parliament is very well established and works on a number of issues as identified by the pupils.
- Achievements are celebrated both in lessons and in our weekly assemblies, termly Celebration Assembly and rewards are embedded into our school culture and ethos.
- We promote a school environment where questions are valued and encouraged.
- Every pupil has a voice in the weekly newsletter by writing about learning in and outside of the classroom.

### **b. The rule of law**

- The school's ethos promotes and encourages respect and helps pupils to distinguish right from wrong.
- Our behaviour policy sets out a zero tolerance baseline for any form of aggression, abuse or violence, which extends to pupils, staff and parent and carers. We raise awareness of bullying by being part of the National Anti Bullying Week and Internet Safety Day.
- The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the school day, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies.
- Through PSE lessons 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. Occasional visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

### **c. Individual liberty**

- We pride ourselves on a school culture and ethos that builds respect, tolerance and resilience.
- Both in and out of lessons pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.
- Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSE lessons.
- We have a robust anti-bullying culture
- Our school environment is one that promotes independence and individual communication. Our aim is to work towards pupils (where possible) having full independence.
- We all work to promote pupils' self-esteem and positive sense of self throughout the school day and in the wider community
- All pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and are supported to learn to make safe choices that enable them to grow as individuals and reach their own potential in all aspects of their learning

- As pupils move up through the school they are supported to understand their rights and personal freedoms and are given appropriate advice to enable them to make independent decisions.
- Vulnerable pupils are supported to make appropriate decisions and staff ensure that adults supporting them are doing so with the pupils' best interests.
- We conduct annual pupil and parent surveys and use the results to inform the coming year's school development plan.

#### **d. Mutual respect**

- Respect is one of the core values of our school. Our pupils know and understand that it is expected that respect is shown to everyone, adults and children.
- School assemblies address what respect means and how it is shown.
- Displays around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our Behaviour Policy.
- Both in and out of the classroom pupils are helped to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other opinions, cultures and ways of life.
- Staff and pupils are encouraged to challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour. All such incidents are recorded.
- We have annual events where lessons focus on different cultures and countries, culminating in a celebration afternoon.

#### **e. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

- Discussions about prejudices and prejudice-based bullying in form time.
- Recognition and discussion of religious celebrations in lessons, form times and assemblies.
- Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school e.g. a discussion of fasting during Ramadan.
- Through the PSE and RE curriculums pupils are encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations.
- Links and visits are promoted with local faith communities and places of worship.

### **5. Staff training**

- At Grange Academy staff are made aware of their responsibilities in terms of British values during their induction.
- If deemed necessary, staff will be offered the opportunity for further training on upholding the British Values Policy.