

Moorside Primary School



British Values Policy

Our Purpose

Moorside Primary is a school at the heart of our diverse community in the West End of Newcastle.
We pride ourselves in belonging to a caring school community where everyone is welcome.
We strive to deliver an outstanding education for all our children.
We help everyone to become caring and active citizens.
We encourage everyone to thrive and achieve their full potential.

Our Vision

We want everyone in our school to work together to make us as good as any school can be.
We want to create new opportunities for everyone to succeed.
We want to create a culture which broadens all of our horizons.
We want everyone to be able to tackle the challenges we will face in an ever changing world.
We want all of our children to effectively engage with each other and with our community.

Our values**We all believe...**

Our local community deserves a school they can be proud of.
We are a caring community where everyone is welcome.
We all value, respect and support each other.
Our community has the right to be safe and healthy.
Our children should have the chance to enjoy and be enthused by their time in our school.

We all agree...

Everyone will always try their best and take pride in all that they do.
Everyone will demonstrate good manners at all times.
Everyone will respect each other and show consideration.
Everyone will respect and care for our environment and resources.
Everyone will celebrate each other's successes and achievements.

Introduction

Our government believes that, 'British society is founded on fundamental values and principles, which all those living in the UK should respect and support. These values are reflected in the responsibilities, rights and privileges of being a British citizen or permanent resident of the UK. They are based on history and traditions and are protected by law, customs and expectations. There is no place in British society for extremism or intolerance.'

The values we support are not unique to Britain and are shared by many people in the world represented by the diverse families at Moorside. We support the values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs and these are embedded within our curriculum.

These values are found in our own school values identified by our children, staff, families and the wider community as respect, confidence, ambition, creativity, determination and enthusiasm.

We plan assemblies and lessons, particularly in PSHE and RE, to teach the children about our values, respecting similarities and differences, tackling stereotypes and understanding why some people discriminate. We aim to empower children to have a voice and to stand up against discrimination, valuing equality, tolerance and mutual respect. These values are used to create an environment which enables all members of our community to be successful, inspired and equipped with the skills for life. Equipping them with these skills for life will allow them to become fully rounded members of society.

In June 2014 the DfE reinforced the 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."

We believe that we are all different and all equal and we celebrate our differences and learn as much as possible about each other understanding that each of us are special and all equal. We work hard to achieve our goals and anything we set our mind to. We recognise that we all make mistakes and we need to accept the consequences of our actions. We all have our opinions and beliefs and we all have a right for them to be heard.

Democracy

We believe that democracy can only exist alongside equality and we value and teach both through the following:

- Pupils in each class voted for their school council representatives.
- Pupils decided on their class rules.
- Pupils are involved in writing the school child friendly policies.
- All pupils have a voice that is listened to and their views can be shared during PSHE and RE lessons.
- The school council suggest ideas for changes in school following meetings with their classes.
- Pupils are given the opportunity to debate and share their opinions through the curriculum.
- Ensuring that all pupils are listened to by adults.

Role of School Council and Parent Forum

The purpose of the School Council is to give pupils across the school an opportunity to develop leadership by organising and carrying out school activities and share pupils' ideas, interests and concerns with the school wide community. Our Parent Forum is normally two to three pupils who have been on the School Council previously who remain in their role however, they share school activities and outcomes with our parents and families in planned meetings.

Our School Council is a group of pupils within the school who are elected by their peers to represent them and their views. We have one representative for each class which means each year group has at least two pupils who have a real say in issues that affect them and to know that their opinions count. The curriculum requires that young people are provided with opportunities to participate in school and society. School Councils are an excellent way in which to increase participation, teaching young people about democracy, local and global citizenship and accountability.

The Rule of Law

An appreciation that living under the rule of law, protects individual citizens and is essential for everyone's wellbeing and safety. We promote this in school through:

- Our class and whole school rules. The whole school rules (Code of Conduct) are the main rules and they relate to behaviour when playing and learning.
- We ensure that pupils understand why we need to have rules and we reinforce those which we follow in school.
- Pupils fully understand the importance of rules relating to their own safety in and out of school.
- Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind our expectations that they are to protect us, that everyone has a responsibility and that there are consequences when rules are broken.
- Visits by local services to reinforce rules and consequences.

Individual liberty

An understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law and we teach this through:

- We encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own behaviour inside and outside of school.
- We teach the pupils how to assess risk and make choices that are safe for themselves and others.
- We teach pupils how to make choices which will lead to positive outcomes for themselves and others.
- We actively encourage pupils to express their views and opinions, teaching them the value of individuality as well as belonging to a community. We advise pupils how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-safety and PSHE lessons.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination. It is embedded in every relationship in school. We promote this by:

- Every member of staff treats every pupil and adult in school with respect.
- Pupils are expected to treat every member of staff, fellow pupils and visitors with respect.
- We actively teach children what respect 'looks like', e.g. listening, giving good eye contact, having good manners etc.
- Having an effective anti-bullying and e-safety policy.
- We, as a community, are lucky to have families from all different cultures, backgrounds, beliefs and countries so we take time to learn about each other and celebrate our differences.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

An acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to one self (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated and not be the cause of prejudice and/or discrimination.

- In RE pupils are provided with a deep understanding of their own and other faiths and traditions of other religious communities as basis for understanding and respecting them.
- Recognising and celebrating that we live in a culturally diverse society.
- We work with families of all faiths and religious backgrounds to ensure that all have a voice and are portrayed in a positive and accurate way.
- We challenge all incidences of disrespect towards others regardless of faith, gender, race and ability.

Extremism

The school is aware of the need to be vigilant when it comes to extreme attitudes or behaviour of any kind and appropriate actions will be taken accordingly. All staff are fully trained by prevent lead.

Our overriding aim is to teach children to be resilient to such attitudes. This involves pupils being taught how to ask probing questions and make sound judgements, for themselves, about what is right and wrong.

Fundamental British values within Early Years Foundation Stage

Fundamental British values have been implicitly embedded in the Early Years Foundation Stage since 2014.

Democracy

As with the rest of our school within our Early Years we support children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) by providing opportunities to develop their self-confidence and self-awareness, to make choices and decisions about what they want to explore and how they are going to use the resources made accessible to them. Part of this work supports them to develop their understanding of the need to take turns, share, collaborate and **make decisions** together. We believe democracy is a situation where everyone is treated equally and has equal rights.

Rule of law

We believe in Early Years this is about developing our understanding that rules matter and learning to manage our own feelings and behaviour, learning about what is right from wrong. Part of this learning helps children to understand how to behave within agreed and clearly defined boundaries whilst being able to deal with the consequences.

Individual liberty

This is embedded within our approaches to Personal, Social and Emotional Development *and* Understanding the World. We focus on children's self-confidence, self-awareness and people and communities. We help children to develop a positive sense of themselves, giving them the time and space to explore the language of feelings and responsibility. As well as supporting them to reflect on their differences and understand that we are all free to have different opinions.

Mutual respect and tolerance

Mutual respect and tolerance is where we learn to treat others as we want to be treated. Our approach to this is through developing young children's awareness of how to be part of a community, manage their feelings and behaviour whilst forming relationships with others.

Naturally we should have an ethos of inclusivity and tolerance in our settings, where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued *and* where we encourage children to engage with their wider community.

Further links:

Departmental advice on promoting basic important British values as part of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-fundamental-british-values-through-smsc>

Departmental advice for schools and child care providers on The Prevent Duty

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf

Appendices

Code of Conduct

Other Policies linked to British values

- PSHE Policy

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| Date to be implemented | September 2018 |
| Date to be reviewed | July 2019 |