



Citizenship and British Values Policy 2023-2024



At Two Mile Ash School, high standards of achievement, behaviour and respect for each other, underpin everything we do. Our teachers strive to create independent, articulate thinkers and learners who have the confidence to realise their ambitions. Our pupils are happy, highly engaged and thrive from a rich and vibrant curriculum. This drives us in our pursuit for achieving excellence every day.

Two Mile Ash School actively promotes the fundamental British values of:

- Democracy;
- The rule of law;
- Individual liberty;
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

These values are officially taught through the RE and PSHE curriculum, and are further nurtured through the school's ethos and promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) understanding.

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
- Ofsted (2022) 'School inspection handbook'
- DfE (2014) 'Improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils: supplementary information'

Roles and responsibilities

- We 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.
- Teachers and 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 each school's Behaviour Policy.

Aims and objectives

Through our provision of SMSC, Two Mile Ash School:

- Enables pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- Enables pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- Encourages pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality and to society more widely;
- Enables pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of, and respect for, public institutions and services in England;
- Enables pupils to acquire an appreciation of, and respect for, their own and other cultures which promotes further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions;
- Encourages respect for other people;
- Encourages respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

Through our promotion of fundamental British values, our pupils show:

- 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 choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law;

- An acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to them, or indeed 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.

In our promotion of fundamental British values, we:

- Include in suitable parts of the curriculum, as appropriate for the age of our pupils, material on the strengths, advantages and disadvantages of democracy, and how democracy and the law works in Britain, in contrast to other forms of government in other countries;
- Ensure that all pupils within the school have a voice that is listened to;
- Demonstrate how democracy works by actively promoting democratic processes;
- Use events such as general or local elections to hold mock elections and provide pupils with the opportunity to learn how to argue and defend points of view;
- Use teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help pupils understand a range of faiths;
- Consider the role of extra-curricular activity in promoting fundamental British values.

Challenging views that go against British values

We openly challenge opinions and behaviour, demonstrated by both staff and pupils, that goes against British values.

- We have a zero-tolerance approach towards discriminatory and prejudicial behaviour. Any pupils displaying this behaviour will be disciplined in line with the Behaviour Policy.
- Referrals regarding pupils that may be at risk of radicalisation will be made in accordance with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Links to Other Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- RSHE Policy
- Curriculum Offer
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Policy

<p>Version: V1 – Tuesday 17th September 2019 V2– Wednesday 22nd July 2020 V3– Monday 7th July 2021 V4 – Thursday 21st July 2022 V5 – Friday 1st September 2023</p>	
<p>Approval: This policy was ratified by the PATH Local Governing Body.</p>	<p>Next Review on or before: September 2024 This policy will be reviewed annually by the Two Mile Ash Strategic Leadership Team and approved by the Governing Body at least on an annual basis (although amendments prior to this may occur to reflect the key changes and proposals within curriculum currently occurring)</p>