



## Lynch Hill School Primary Academy

### Promoting British Values – Policy and Practice

#### Introduction

As of September 2014, the DFE required all schools to promote the historical and current values that underpin the national identity known as “being British”. Within this, all schools are now required to ensure that the curriculum actively promotes these fundamental British values.

#### What is “Britishness”?

British values are defined as:

- Respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process
- Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- Support for equality and opportunity for all
- Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

#### Aims

At Lynch Hill School Primary Academy, and in line with each pupils’ age and individual capacity to understand concepts, we aim to:

Democracy:

- Provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of, and promote respect for, public institutions and services
- Teach pupils how they can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- Include in the curriculum information on the advantages and disadvantages of democracy and how it works in Britain
- Encourage pupils to become involved in decision-making processes and ensure they are listened to in school
- Hold ‘mock elections’ so pupils learn how to argue and defend points of view
- Help pupils to express their views
- Teach pupils how public services operate and how they are held to account
- Model how perceived injustice can be peacefully challenged

Rule of Law:

- Ensure school rules and expectations are clear and fair
- Help pupils to distinguish right from wrong
- Help pupils to respect the law and the basis on which it is made
- Help pupils to understand that living under the rule of law protects individuals

- Teach pupils aspects of both civil and criminal law and discuss how this might differ from some religious laws
- Develop restorative justice approaches to resolve conflicts

#### Individual Liberty:

- Support pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- Encourage pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour, as well as knowing their rights
- Model freedom of speech through pupil participation, while ensuring protection of vulnerable pupils and promoting critical analysis of evidence
- Challenge stereotypes
- Implement a strong anti-bullying culture
- Follow the UNICEF rights respecting schools agenda

#### Respect and Tolerance:

- Promote respect for individual differences
- Help pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life
- Challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour
- Organise visits to places of worship
- Develop links with faith communities
- Develop critical personal thinking skills
- Discuss differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations, such as looked after children or young carers

### **Teaching and Learning**

Every school is expected to ensure that its curriculum enables the pupils to explore what it means to be British. At Lynch Hill School Primary Academy pupils are encouraged to develop their ability to:

- Describe their own identities and the groups that they feel they belong to
- Recognise different identities and experiences
- Appreciate that identity consists of many factors
- Recognise that each person's identity is unique and that it can change
- Begin to understand the idea and concept of stereotypes so that stereotypes can be challenged
- Ask questions and enjoy exploring and learning new ideas
- Develop a strong sense of personal responsibility and understanding right and wrong
- Have a respect for rules and regulations
- Understand how they can contribute to the well-being of those in the locality and in the wider world

- Become emotionally resilient with the knowledge and confidence to stand by their own convictions whilst respecting others.

### **Implementing this policy**

This is achieved through the following:

- Fostering of mutual respect and trust through, for example, the messages given through assemblies and Thought for the Week
- Encouraging pupils to express their points of view and listen to the views of others via PSHE and P4C
- School displays and exhibitions which help to foster British values
- Ensuring that we regularly review and audit our curriculum to reflect on and promote attitudes to British values
- Pupils, parents and staff being fully aware of Lynch Hill's approach to British values through our teaching materials, website and policy documentation and Home/School agreements
- Strong Pastoral Support
- Effective staff training

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