



Promoting British Values

Written by: Sophie Jones

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At Handcross School, every child is special.

Aims for the School

- To make all children and staff feel safe, happy, respected, cared for and have a sense of belonging. To create a trusting atmosphere in which the spiritual life and personal qualities of the children will flourish and their growing confidence and independence nurtured.
- For there to be high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge **every** child to learn in every aspect of a broad curriculum. For the children to learn how to think independently, develop their imaginations and have fun. For every day to be used to the full.
- To have good working relationships between all who work in the school and a strong partnership with the parents, other schools and the community.
- To create an in/outdoor environment which is attractive, lively, stimulating, informative and which supports the children's learning.
- For the learning to be based on our knowledge of *how* children learn, the preferences and interests expressed by the children themselves and from stimuli within the locality.
- For exciting and memorable lessons to be well planned and resourced, with plenty of rich, satisfying, enjoyable, multi-sensory experiences, and for lessons to be suitably differentiated to meet every individual need.
- For the good and relevant use of IT to be fully exploited.
- To set short, medium and long-term goals which challenge and stretch each individual, and for progress to be carefully tracked.
- For teachers to accurately assess individuals at every stage of the learning so that the resulting interventions have a direct *impact on the children's learning*.
- For the children to be able to talk about their progress towards their targets, and for their achievements to be celebrated.
- For the children to be prepared to lead a life within a diverse and constantly changing society, in which they will respect British values, adopt a healthy lifestyle, achieve economic well-being, and make a positive contribution.

September 2016

The DfE reinforce 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."*

The government set out this definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. These values were reiterated by the Prime Minister in 2015.

At Handcross Primary School we define these British values as:

- Democracy - the respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process.
- The rule of law – the respect for the basis on which law is made and applies in England.
- Support for equality of opportunity for all.
- Individual liberty – support and respect for the liberties of all within the law.
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

At Handcross Primary School we actively promote values and ethics that shape our pupils' characters and moral perspectives. They are an integral part of our organisation – we live and breathe it.

Democracy

Democracy underpins the values of the school. All children are treated fairly and have an equal right to express their views and be listened to. The School Council is an important

aspect of our provision, ensuring children have the opportunity to be heard and have opportunity to experience democratic decision making. To coincide with general elections, older children are voted in as 'leaders' of the different parties, present their views and are voted for by the rest of the school. Children also exercise their right to vote, for example, when deciding who they think should win the annual 'Children's' Cup'. Annual pupil questionnaires also provide the children with opportunities to voice their opinions about a range of topics. Children are also encouraged to engage in the learning process by developing independence, voicing opinions and ideas, making choices and responding to teachers marking.

The Rule of Law

Children are clear about their rights and the rights of others. We ensure children are able to distinguish right from wrong in a wide range of situations, both in the school and the community. Children 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. Visits from authorities such as the police and fire service are regular parts of our PSHE provision and help to reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Within the school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school our aim is to empower children to make safe choices through the provision of boundaries and a safe environment. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example, through our E-Safety , PSHE lessons and Nurture Groups.

Mutual Respect

Our aims and values include the importance of respect which is clearly demonstrated throughout the school. Our Golden Rules, discussions and assemblies promote and explore respect for self and others which is reinforced in our Positive Behaviour Policy. Children thoroughly enjoy lessons and are active learners who display very good behaviour because they understand the right of all children to learn and thrive in an atmosphere of mutual respect. Children are expected to treat the views and opinions of others with respect even if they differ from their own. Our Talk for Learning practice across the school equips the children for this. All children are trained as Peer Mediators ('Peace Pals') so that they can learn how to resolve conflicts in their own lives and help other children do the same.

Tolerance of those with different faiths or beliefs

All staff are committed to developing the language children need to express their views, emotions and feelings so they are able to negotiate and resolve disagreements peacefully. We actively seek opportunities to enhance children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society by providing real life experiences, for example, visiting local shops, the local Church and a Hindu Temple. Through assemblies, RE lessons, Humanities lessons and discussions about prejudices and prejudiced-based bullying, children are supported in their learning about diversity, respect and tolerance. During our biennial cultural week, we celebrate and foster understanding about all the nationalities and religions represented in the school.