



**SHIPTON BELLINGER PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**BRITISH VALUES STATEMENT**  
**Autumn 2024**

## **Responsibilities**

Promoting fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in schools (Departmental advice for maintained schools November 2014) advised:

- It is expected that pupils should understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law. The schools' ethos and teaching, which schools should make parents aware of, should support the rule of English civil and criminal law and schools should not teach anything that undermines it. If schools teach about religious law, particular care should be taken to explore the relationship between state and religious law. Pupils should be made aware of the difference between the law of the land and religious law.
- Schools should 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. This can help schools to demonstrate how they are meeting the requirements of section 78 of the Education Act 2002, in their provision of SMSC.
- Actively promoting the values means challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to fundamental British values. Attempts to promote systems that undermine fundamental British values would be completely at odds with the schools' duty to provide SMSC. The Teachers' Standards expect teachers to uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school. This includes not undermining fundamental British values.

Please read this policy in conjunction with the Prevent Duty Guidance found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

The Prevent duty is the duty in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 on specified authorities, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism

## **Promoting British Values at Shipton Bellinger Primary School:**

We agree with the Department for Education's five-part definition of British values:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

## **Democracy**

Democracy is common within the school where the promotion of democratic processes, fostering the concept and application of freedom of speech and group action to address need and concerns are heard

through our School Councillors, Play Leaders and through pupil questionnaires. Also key to this is the concept of holding others to account, including those in positions of authority or influence. This year, the whole school has had the opportunity to consider what we understand by the word 'democracy' and how the Magna Carta could be considered to be one of the foundation stones for democracy in our country during Collective Worship. Our school council is regularly used by children to vote on key issues in school. Classes have the opportunity to debate and discuss ideas brought to the council before a decision is made.

### **The Rule of Law**

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school worship/assemblies. 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. Visits from authorities such as the Police, Fire Service etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. Throughout the school, children are encouraged to follow the Golden Rules. We adopt a positive approach to managing behaviour.

### **Individual Liberty**

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms) and are advised how to exercise these safely; for example through E-Safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge, of how they record, where they work, how they present their learning outcomes or participation in our numerous extra curricular clubs and opportunities, all pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

### **Mutual Respect**

Pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to cultural traditions and establish what values mean and how they are shown. These ideas are reiterated through the school and classroom rules, as well as our behaviour policy. In demonstrating love for others, children are expected to show respect for others.

Additional support is provided for individual pupils, through ELSA and Pastoral Care work. This support helps to develop self-esteem and to practise strategies pupils can employ to help improve their respect of others.

### **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs**

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by providing opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Through a wide range of activities, the school secures such standards and uses strategies within the National Curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for children.

### **Other ways we promote British values**

#### **Our curriculum**

Developing the skill base required to access/share information, make/express decisions and apply themselves to society and the world. These include the understanding and use of money, effective writing and reading skills, collaborative work, to discuss and research ideas and concepts, and gain a broad and balanced understanding of the society in which they live. Aspects of study beyond core skills include historical and geographical context of the United Kingdom, incorporating local and national evolution, as well as international comparisons.

Our school makes the best use of opportunities as they arise, for children to learn about events in the past which have shaped the future. Every year, all children are involved in classroom activities that

focus their thinking on Remembrance. This is linked with a special whole school worship and a two minute reflective silence by all staff and pupils. Throughout our taught curriculum, children undertake a range of history topics about the development of Britain through different periods. As a whole school, we have celebrated both the Olympics and Royal milestones.

**Whole school daily acts of collective worship/assembly:**

The sharing of stories, images, events, music and expectations that, with clarity and precision, promote the values expressed. Such proceedings vary in the methodology of delivery in order to secure interest and understanding and are designed to impact on children regardless of knowledge, experience or cognitive maturity. Collective worship recognises that those attending may have a wide range of faiths, or none.

**Religious Education:** Gaining a greater understanding of religious diversity and practices, which cover key religions represented in the UK. We use the Hampshire Agreed syllabus for RE and a range of materials to enhance PSHE teaching.

**Physical Education:** We actively promote the concept of 'fair play', following and developing rules, inclusion, celebrating and rewarding success, being magnanimous in defeat and participation in activities that promote kinship and affiliation with others. There are many opportunities for all pupils throughout their time in school, to participate in competitions and events which promote these values. For example, basketball, football, tag-rugby, netball, cricket and athletics tournaments as well as multi-skills events for pupils. All pupils participate in a range of physical and athletic activities within sports days. These take place within the school grounds, at other school facilities, as well as at local community playing fields.

Should you feel that the school is not meeting the requirement to promote British values, you should contact the school office and request to express your concerns with the Headteacher. Likewise, if you feel that anyone working at the school is, intentionally or otherwise undermining these values, you should report this to the Headteacher.