

Believe and Achieve



BRITISH VALUES POLICY

J Bartle

N Hill

HEAD TEACHER

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

JANUARY 2024

DATE

JANUARY 2026

DATE TO BE REVIEWED

British Values

'At Coxhoe Primary School, we aim to offer our children engaging and enriching opportunities to allow them to develop the knowledge, skills and resilience they need to achieve in our ever changing and culturally diverse world'

Rationale

Coxhoe Primary School is committed to actively promoting core British Values and serving its community. We recognise that this includes challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to these values. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. We also understand the vital role we have in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

We follow equal opportunities guidance, which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or any of the protected characteristics. Coxhoe Primary School is dedicated to preparing pupils for their adult life beyond the formal curriculum and ensuring that we promote and reinforce British Values to all pupils.

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key 'British Values' are taught in all UK schools. The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. The five British Values are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Aims and Objectives

At Coxhoe Primary School we aim to:

- Actively 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
- Encourage pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.
- Ensure that principles are actively promoted
 - Enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
 - Enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England
 - Encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality in which the school is situated and to society more widely
 - Enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England

- Promote further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures
- Encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England
- Prevent the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the school and take such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure that where political issues are brought to the attention of pupils they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. This should be
 - While they are in attendance at the school
 - While they are taking part in extra-curricular activities which are provided or organised by or on behalf of the school
- Protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism including but not restricted to those linked to Islam ideology, Far Right/Neo Nazi/White Supremacist ideology etc.

Roles & Responsibilities

The Governors and staff at Coxhoe Primary School will:

- Ensure that fundamental British values are embedded as an integral part of the ethos and culture of Coxhoe Primary School
- Challenge opinions or behaviours in school by pupils, staff, visitors, volunteers or parents that are contrary to fundamental British values, including extremist views
- Ensure that all visitors to Coxhoe Primary School are checked to ensure that they do not attempt to promote systems that undermine fundamental British values including extremism or radicalisation
- Ensure that our pupils understand that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their well-being and safety and that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law
- Teach our students about the democracy and the rule of English civil and criminal law and will not teach anything that undermines it
- Ensure all students within the school, regardless of age, have a voice that is listened to
- Demonstrate how democracy works and by developing an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making by actively promoting democratic processes such as electing a school council whose members are voted for by the students
- Reinforce fundamental British values through the SMSC and PSHE curriculum, and the assembly programme
- Ensure that our students are taught a balanced RE curriculum which takes account of the teaching and practices of the principal religions represented in Britain
- Ensure that our pupils understand that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- Ensure that we develop a tolerance and understanding of different faiths, cultures and beliefs by visiting places of worship, inviting visiting speakers to the school and using teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help pupils understand a range of faiths
- Enable our students to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to our local community and life in modern Britain

- Enable our pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in the community of the school. E.g. School Council, Leap Leaders, Mini Police, Sports Crew, Digital Leaders, Playground Squad, Gardening and Eco Team, Choir and supporting and working with younger children in lessons
- Deliver a balanced programme of assemblies and reflection sessions which promote students' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development, providing clear guidance on what is right and what is wrong
- Ensure an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination, extremism and radicalisation
- Ensure that there are effective risk assessments and screening policies and procedures in place to safeguard and promote pupils' welfare against the threat of extremism and radicalisation.

Embedding British Values

Our Coxhoe Curriculum has been created to secure the development of the five British Values for pupils. The examples that follow show some of the many ways Coxhoe Primary School strives to consistently embed British Values.

Democracy at Coxhoe Primary School - what does it look like?

- Classes vote for roles in school such as Head Pupils and representatives on the school council.
- Children have the opportunity to vote when making choices about school life, for example choice of class text and choice of rewards.
- Children often given the opportunity to be part of decision making in school.
- The Coxhoe Curriculum includes the use of democracy in real life, both presently and in the past.
- Children have regular access to news programmes and learn about modern politics in Britain.

Mutual Respect at Coxhoe Primary School - what does it look like?

- In our school, we celebrate being unique
- During Anti-Bullying Week we explore mutual respect in greater depth using a text in English to support this
- Our 'Inclusion Squad' ensures that everyone feels welcome in our school family. Our assembly curriculum has a number of SEND and wellbeing foci including National Mental Health Day, Neurodiversity Celebration Week and Children's Mental Health Week.
- Our Core Book Spine promotes mutual respect.
- Regular and responsive online safety sessions are delivered to ensure mutual respect online.
- Children are encouraged to challenge prejudiced related language and incidents.

The Rule of Law at Coxhoe Primary School - what does it look like?

- Our Coxhoe Code of Conduct sets expectations which are clear and consistent
- Our school Behaviour policy is fully inclusive to support the understanding of rewards and consequences for all pupils.
- We have a Pupil Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) which ensures that we understand rules around how to stay safe on the internet.
- Each class devises a class charter in our PSHE scheme, Jigsaw.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs at Coxhoe Primary School - what does it look like?

- Our RE curriculum ensures that every child has a good understanding of a range of religious beliefs and customs
- Through our assembly curriculum our children learn about important celebrations in different religions
- During Interfaith Week, visitors talk to our children about their faith, beliefs and customs
- Our Core Book Spine promotes tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Individual Liberty at Coxhoe Primary School - what does it look like?

- In our school, pupils have a voice that is listened to and our pupil voice groups include our School Council, Subject Ambassadors, Activators, Inclusion Squad, Digital Leaders, Playground Stars and Pride Youth Network
- Children are often given choices within their learning, for example how to record their work, the challenges they access or physical environment.
- Children are provided with lots of opportunities for choice in different aspects of school life, including their lunch, snacks, play and extra curricular activities.
- Children are encouraged to express their individuality through activities offered, events and as part of the whole school ethos.

At Coxhoe Primary School we are committed to actively promoting British values, which complement our own vision and values. This forms part of our wider work in school with children in relation to their Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education (SMSC). At the heart of these values, lie good relationships in which teachers and children work together towards common goals.

Reviewed and updated by: J Bartle

Date: January 2024

COXHOE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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