

## **BRITISH VALUES**

### **Our Values Statement**

We promote 'British Values' through our spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) education which permeates through the school's curriculum and supports the development of the 'whole child'. The curriculum at all key stages provides broad and balanced opportunities.

We recognise that such development is most successful when those values and attitudes are promoted by all staff and provide a model of behaviour for our pupils.

'British Values' have been identified as:

- ❖ Democracy
- ❖ Rule of Law
- ❖ Individual Liberty
- ❖ Mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths

### **Democracy**

The ability to understand and communicate are the most important areas of learning. We ensure that pupils are given a 'voice' to communicate. This could be by using words, objects, photographs, pictures, symbols, signing, touch cues, eye pointing or body language.

We empower our pupils by giving them opportunities to make choices about the things that they believe to be important. By valuing each 'voice' and by listening and responding to that voice we demonstrate that we support democracy and liberty.

We have an active School Council who meet half termly and make an important contribution to school and the decisions made. We have a notice board in school so all pupils, staff and visitors know who our School Council members are and what issues are discussed. Pupils are listened to by adults and also given time to respond. The 'I Matter Code' is an important document in all we do at Fox Wood.

### **Rule of Law**

We involve pupils in setting class rules and help pupils to make decisions and choices that are acceptable to the school and wider community.

Pupils are helped to learn to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions. Staff are committed to providing a consistent and predictable environment within the school and beyond. We can help many pupils to understand the connection between actions and consequences and this area is crucial for many of them. Staff use symbols and traffic lights to inform pupils of expected behaviour.

## **Individual Liberty**

Pupils are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. We do this by supporting each pupil to become as independent as possible. We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights; this includes the right to say 'Yes or No' to certain ideas or activities. Some pupils will be able to take responsibility for particular roles and to understand that with certain rights comes a level of responsibility. Learning to do things independently is an important part of learning to understand yourself and is a focus for much of what we do at Fox Wood. We also support others by participating in events such as Red Nose Day, Children in Need and supporting Warrington Food Bank at Harvest time.

## **Mutual Respect and Tolerance**

We promote each pupil's inclusion in activities, settings and locations that are appropriate to them individually to meet their needs. Within school, pupils work with a range of staff and interactions with others are always positively promoted on a personalised basis for each pupil. This may include working with pupils from other schools, coaches, music groups etc. The curriculum is personalised and planned for pupils and may include being involved in the community and meeting a range of people in a variety of situations which include: sports events, community events, art events and shared participation with other schools.

We believe it is important to facilitate opportunities to be part of the community as the pupils, families and staff have much to offer in the development of community cohesion.

We are part of a school and local community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, or race. Stories often reflect and value the diversity of children's experiences, and resources are provided which challenge gender, cultural or racial stereotyping.

## **In Practice**

Cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum. We place great emphasis on providing encounters and participation in events to broaden all pupils' experiences and awareness of others. We have a number of themes weeks throughout the year which frequently involve experiencing aspects of different cultures.

Our Assemblies help all pupils to find out about themselves and others linking their lives to the communities in which they belong. The themes cover areas such as; friendship, helping others and celebrations from a range of faiths and world events including Divali, Christmas, Remembrance Sunday, Jewish New Year etc.

As a school, we are also working towards being a Rights Respecting School (Unicef).

Pupils are encouraged to experience British Culture through our curriculum themes and pupils visit many local places. In 2016 we all celebrated the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and from 2017 we will have an annual at Britain Day in April.

Many of our pupils struggle to communicate their feelings or opinions, and we strive to equip them with the tools to do this wherever possible. As part of this we acknowledge the importance of key people, including parents, in our pupils lives and endeavour to encourage them to engage with school life as fully as possible. To support this we are working towards achieving the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA).