



Statement of our Commitment to Promoting Fundamental British Values as Part of SMSC in our School

Introduction

At Beresford Memorial CE (V.A.) First School we take very seriously our responsibility to prepare children for life in modern Britain. We ensure that the fundamental British Values are introduced, discussed and lived out through the ethos and work of the school. All curriculum areas provide a vehicle for furthering understanding of these concepts and children embrace these concepts with enthusiasm and demonstrate a good understanding of their application to their own lives.

Beresford Memorial CE (V.A.) First School is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

The school makes considerable efforts to ensure children have exposure to a wide experience beyond their local community during which these British Values are shown. Sporting events, a range of multi-cultural visits and use of outdoor education centres are planned to ensure children's experiences are broad, meaningful and varied. Their strong rooted values-based understanding gives them an excellent platform for embracing difference.

What are British Values?

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 'Prevent Strategy' - values of:

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

British Values at Beresford

Democracy

Democracy is embedded throughout the school. Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires. The elections of the School Council members, Eco Council Members and House Captains, are based solely on pupil votes, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently re-inforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through School Worships. 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.

Individual Liberty

We invest a lot of time in creating a positive culture in our school and 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 our pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely; examples of this can be clearly seen in our e-safety and P.S.H.E. lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge; of how they record; of participation in our numerous extra- curricular activities; our pupils are given the freedom to make choices. We believe that valuing choice and freedom in daily school life will foster a value for individual liberty as the children embark upon their adult lives.

Mutual Respect

Beresford pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have and to everything, however big or small.

A core value of Respect at Beresford Memorial CE (VA) First School underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom

Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

Whilst we are a Church School, we offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected. Parents and leaders of different faiths are welcomed to the school to share their beliefs. At Beresford Memorial First School, we strongly believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding. Through our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain for the future.