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PINXTON NURSERY SCHOOL

Promoting Fundamental British Values Policy

The DfE have reinforced 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 fundamental British Values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs are already implicitly embedded in the revised 2021 EYFS.

At Pinxton Nursery School we believe that our provision of the EYFS framework already provides a solid foundation to encourage a child's understanding and acceptance that we live in diverse communities with many different cultures and lifestyles.

British Values are explicitly taught through different aspects of provision and children have their awareness and appreciation of British Values fostered during their time in school. The outcomes of which are monitored and assessed. The school environment is designed to inform, challenge and support both child and adult views around British values and what it means to be a British citizen.

Aims

This policy sets out the four key areas within which the DfE has defined British values, and the ways in which students learn and develop understanding of these areas, both through the curriculum, extracurricular and other opportunities.

Introduction

As of September 2014, the DfE requires all schools to promote the historical and current values that underpin the national identity known as being British. Within this, all schools are required to ensure that the curriculum actively promotes these fundamental British values. Pinxton Nursery School is a community within which we celebrate students and cultures from all over the world. Alongside this, the school is keen to support all students in learning about and deepening their understanding of British values, culture and systems.

What is 'Britishness'?

Fundamental British values are defined by the DfE as:

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

Advice to guide school policy

The Education (Independent School Standards) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 for the new social, moral, spiritual and cultural (SMSC) standard came into force on 29 September 2014.

The regulations state that to meet the standard for the SMSC development of pupils, the school must:

- Actively promote the fundamental British values: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs
- Prevent the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the school
- 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.

The balanced presentation of opposing views applies while pupils are in attendance at school, while they are taking part in extra-curricular activities provided by, or on behalf of, the school, and in the promotion of those extra-curricular activities, whether they are taking place at the school or elsewhere.

Schools must also ensure they actively promote principles that:

- 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
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own 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

British values: expectations for pupils

The DfE's non-statutory advice for improving the SMSC development in independent schools, academies and free schools, linked to above, has information on expectations for pupils.

Paragraph 13 of the document sets out 'the kinds of understanding and knowledge that can be expected in pupils' as a result of schools meeting the standard to respect 'fundamental British values'. These include:

- An understanding as to how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- An understanding that participation in elections by those opposed to democracy should be allowed by law, but the success of such candidates is undesirable for the well-being of society if it would lead to the end of democracy
- An understanding that bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account by the people, through the democratic organs of government
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law, and an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.

How do we actively promote British Values at Pinxton Nursery School?

Democracy

- Provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of and promote respect for public institutions and services through lessons and curriculum programmes
- Encourage students to be aware of injustice, perceived or real and think about ways in which this can be challenged through school processes or in the wider world, Charity Fundraising initiatives and awareness raising campaigns.

Rule of Law

- Ensure school rules and expectations are transparent, clear and fair, available for all to consult and that they are used consistently across the different areas and age groups within the school.

- Help pupils to distinguish right from wrong through discussion and modelling positive behaviour
- Help pupils to understand that the law and living under the rule of law is intended to protect individuals. Use opportunities in lessons to review understanding of the rule of law and its effects upon individuals and groups.
- Help pupils to understand that the law is to be respected through upholding and adhering to it as a community and to our own school rules.

Individual Liberty

- Support all pupils to develop positive self-esteem, self-confidence and self-awareness and self-knowledge.
- Encourage pupils to assume responsibility for their own behaviour and acknowledge the effects it may have on others.
- Challenge stereotypes and promote individuality at every opportunity, modelled by staff and older students to set positive examples through the school.
- Work tirelessly to establish and maintain a climate in which all students feel safe and bullying is not tolerated

Respect and Tolerance

- Promote respect for individual differences
- Use Curricular and extracurricular opportunities to expose pupils to British and other cultures, their ways of life and faiths, encourage and support pupils in growing their understanding and appreciation of these.
- Discuss differences between people: ethnicity, gender, faith, disability, sexuality and family situations such as young carers or looked after children ensuring that pupils can understand these different elements within British society.

Summary

All staff and students at Pinxton Nursery School are expected to behave with integrity, tolerance and compassion in their dealings with one another. We provide opportunities for all pupils not only to explore their own cultures but also to understand how these align with British values and how we can work together as a community for the greater good. Every member of the community has a part to play in enshrining the core values and beliefs so as to build a strong, united and democratic school. Where unfairness or bullying is found to exist it will be routed out, and democracy and the rights of individuals will take centre stage.

Examples of opportunities and activities to promote British Values at Pinxton Nursery School include:

- Specific focused group work based around British Values, rights and responsibilities and global citizenship.

- Focussed input based on difference and diversity, acceptance and tolerance, identity and belonging and conflict and peace.
- Continuous provision - role play area depicts the diversity of the British family, PSED is taught both implicitly and explicitly throughout the curriculum and through small world play, construction activities, creativity, baking, story times etc.
- Daily interactions where children are supported to share, take turns, show compassion, feel empathy and recognise respectful behaviour.
- Continuous emphasis on the right to be heard and feel safe within our school and the wider community. Through various activities, children explore life from other points of view and are helped to understand that 'British Values' revolve around their safety.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following policies and guidance:

- *Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy*
- *Equality Policy*
- *Teaching and Learning Policy*
- *Behaviour Policy*
- *Community Cohesion Policy*
- *Staff Code of Conduct*
- *Home School Agreement*
- *E-Safety Policy*
- *ICT Acceptable Use Policy*

Appendix: How does Pinxton Nursery School promote British Values?

The document below can be used by teachers to demonstrate how they promote British values. The questions have been adapted from the DfE document 'Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools'.

Checklist to review and note opportunities for promoting British Values within our schemes of work.

Questions Evidence	
How do we promote the values of democracy through our curriculum and wider school life?	
How do we promote the importance of identifying and combating discrimination?	
Do students understand that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law?	
How do we promote tolerance between	

<p>different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of their own and other cultures?</p>	
<p>How do we challenge opinions or behaviours that are contrary to fundamental British values?</p>	

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