

Brinsley Primary and Nursery School
Statement of Inclusion of British Values

January 2023



26.01.23

In June 2014, the Prime Minister emphasised the important role that British values can play in education. Further, how well a school promotes such values is an aspect of Ofsted's inspection process.

At Brinsley Primary School, British values are promoted in much of what we do, during school assemblies, Religious Education and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) sessions. The values are also integral to our vision and values, having used these to create our own Brinsley Values.

As well as actively promoting British values, the opposite also applies: we would actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British values, including 'extremist' views.

The British values we learn about are not unique to Britain. We acknowledge that they differ in no way from the values of many other countries and the cultural backgrounds.

At Brinsley Primary and Nursery School we uphold and teach pupils about British Values which are defined as:

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

These values are taught through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE), Religious Education (RE) and assemblies. We also teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum.

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values and our Brinsley Values through assemblies and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running class and school councils. We also promote British values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values.

At Brinsley Primary and Nursery School, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

Children, parents and staff have many opportunities for their voices to be heard at Brinsley Primary School. Democracy is central to how we operate.

Democracy is richly embedded within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, Rights Respecting schools Steering group, pupil questionnaires, meeting with the Headteacher. Our school behaviour and values policies involve rewards and sanctions; this is shared through all aspects of school life and also shared with parents, carers and children from Foundation to Year 6.

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 assembly time. 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. Where possible, visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and work, we have devised a reward system which is consistently followed throughout the school. We are committed to praising children's efforts. We endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school. Children are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas, but for behaviour and general adherence to Brinsley Primary School's Behaviour Policy.

Rewards are given in the form of stickers, class points, house points and certificates. Children's achievements are also recognised during Celebration Assemblies.

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 all pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and an empowering approach through the 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 our E-Safety and PSHCE lessons. Pupils are further empowered through being part of a school council, a Rights Respecting Schools steering group and being able to take part in pupil forums which link directly to the senior leadership team or governors.

Pupils are given the freedom to make a wide range of choices from attending extra-curricular clubs to supporting fund raising events.

Mutual Respect:

At Brinsley Primary School everyone knows and understands that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to *everyone*, whatever differences we may have, and to *everything*, whether it is a school resource, a religious belief or whatever. Children learn that their behaviour choices have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community should treat each other with respect.

As a school which holds values at the core of its ethos, our school Values and Behaviour policies have evolved around 12 Core Brinsley Values, including 'Respect, Responsibility and Tolerance', and pupils, have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what these means and how they are shown. Our Brinsley Values are explicitly taught each month, these are linked to the terms SEAL topics. These are also linked to our work towards our 'Rights Respecting School Award.'

Adults throughout the school model, demonstrate and promote respect for others as do older children who have suitable, age related, tasks and responsibilities and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour.

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 giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our local community which is by large white British. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE.

To develop our awareness and appreciation of life and other cultures, we use opportunities in English through fiction, in Art and world events such as the Olympics and World Cup, by considering culture from other parts of the world.

We have termly Class swap days that focus on different World Faith Celebrations where we study another world faith and learn about their customs, practises and celebrations. Where possible we invite guest speakers and/or run workshops to give the children a real experience of a different belief system.

Sadly, no school can guarantee that there will never be instances which are contrary to this value. At Brinsley Primary, such instances are extremely rare. They are treated seriously in line with our Relationships Management Policy.

Extremism:

Something which is clearly not part of any British or European value is extremism. It is important to remember that whilst the threat from so-called Islamic State has been a focus in the Counter Terrorism and Security Act, the Prevent Duty is clear that extremism of all kinds should be tackled too. In England, far right groups such as Britain First and the English Defence League need to be tackled, too. Extremism is not a new topic in education, but schools have a relatively new statutory duty to pay “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

Linked Policies:

PHSE & Citizenship Policy

Religious Education Policy

IT Policy

Behaviour Policy

Prevent Duty

Safeguarding

Anti-bullying Policy

Reviewed: 26.01.21

To be reviewed: Jan 2023

J Osprey