



Promoting British Values as part of SMSC Statement

The Department for Education state that there is a 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 government set out its definition of British values in the updated 2021 Prevent Strategy Guidance. The school also follows guidance in relation to the specific safeguarding issues outlined in the Prevent Duty Guidance 2021, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.(please see the school’s Safeguarding Policy).

At The Grove these values are reinforced regularly, particularly through our values reflected within our SEARCH for Success ethos;

Support

Empathy

Acceptance

Resilience

Compassion

Honesty

Prevent Duty Guidance (Updated April 2021)

British values are taught through our Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE) curriculum and are outlined within our annual calendar; specific life-skills units, SMSC form times, SMSC cultural events and SEARCH celebration and SMSC themed assemblies. We also teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum.

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through our SMSC curriculum, themed assemblies, SMSC form times and whole school systems and structures, such as electing and running a successful School Council as well as student advocacy groups. We also actively promote the British Values through ensuring our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values including a wide range of SMSC events such as charity events (Children in Need and Sports Relief).

Actively promoting British Values also means challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including ‘extremist’ views. The Government has defined extremism in the Prevent strategy as: “vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

At The Grove we uphold and teach pupils about the British Values which are defined in these key areas:

- **Democracy**

- **Rule of Law**
- **Individual Liberty**
- **Mutual Respect**
- **Tolerance** (of those with different faiths and beliefs)

PSHE underpins our entire curriculum offer. We also teach through a forest school curriculum which focuses on social and emotional development.

We teach children and young people to develop values, attitudes, personal and social skills, and increase their knowledge and understanding to make informed decisions and life choices. The themes identified above will be revisited to maintain, consolidate, reinforce and generalise previous learning, as well as introducing new knowledge, skills and understanding. This means repeating themes and work to ensure that the learning is assimilated and understood. Each of the themes above will be developed at different levels over the years. This will not necessarily coincide with age groups but rather with young persons' cognitive and emotional ability and their maturity.

Democracy

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, which supports an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process. The elections of members of the School Council and class representative are based on pupil votes. The pupils participate to agree to a set of class or individual rules which they actively work and live by and are used by pupils and adults to influence others' behaviour. In addition, pupils also have individual opportunities for advocacy and democracy through the annual review process.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout the regular school day. The multi-disciplinary team works with class teams and individual pupils to develop wellbeing plans which are in the Personalised Support Plans (PSP). This enables all staff to work consistently to support pupils to enable them to develop strategies to manage their own behaviour where possible.

Pupils for whom it is appropriate, also learn about their own individual risk assessment and other risk assessments relevant to the building and how we use and manage equipment. This further develops their appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety. Students learn how to manage equipment safely through their life-skills curriculum.

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. Visits from authorities such as the local community police visit our school and help reinforce this message. For older students who take part in work experience, they also learn the rules of work and behaviours at work.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a very safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment, support with communication, and a planned curriculum that encourages independence and choice making. 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 teaching, our life-skills curriculum and through PSHE curriculum. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. voting on choices for daily clubs, whole school events and choosing which activities they would like to do at specific events. They also make choices at various points during the school day such as choosing meals at lunchtime, making choices at snack-time, activities at break times, and where appropriate within lessons and learning.

At 14 and 16 years old, all students at The Grove have a Person Centred Planning meeting (PCP). At this meeting the school plays an impartial role in communicating and supporting the student in advocating their hopes and desires, working towards their transition towards adulthood through choices about their;

Employment

Independent living

Good health

Friends, relationship and community inclusion

The outcomes of the year 9 PCP meeting shapes the Post 16 education that each individual then receives. This is part of the students annual review process.

Mutual Respect

Respect is one of the core values of our school. This can be seen and felt in our pervading ethos in school. The staff and 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. The core value of respect at The Grove underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom. Pupils and adults alike, including visitors are challenged if they are disrespectful in any way. Values are highly visible around the school and can be seen in displays, certificates, awards, assemblies and as part of our agreed codes e.g. staff code of conduct.

Tolerance of Those with 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. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been supported by learning in SMSC form times, SMSC themed assemblies, specific life-skills units and through our PSHE curriculum.

We may celebrate as a whole school, themed cultural days as part of the cultural studies curriculum e.g. Divali or Ramadan, encouraging pupils to research and discover differences and similarities between us and other cultures, religions and significant events. Likewise, we use opportunities such as the Olympics or World Cup to study and learn about life and culture in countries who participate. On these days, we invite guests or other professionals in to allow the pupils to experience different cultures. We have a half termly rotating cultural focus which includes looking into religion, food, language and traditional events.

In addition, we employ teachers and support staff who bring a varied cultural experience to The Grove. Our staff and student families come from a wide range of cultural backgrounds which makes our school a very diverse and rich community that reflects the local authority and community in which we are located.

Other relevant Policies:

- This policy should be read in conjunction with this statement:
- Curriculum policy
- PSHE Policy
- SMSC Intent and Overview
- Assessment & Recording Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy

Equal Opportunities

Teachers will ensure that all experiences reflect Cultural Diversity, Ethnicity, Religion, Gender, Ability, Disability and Age.

Health and Safety

All staff should ensure the health and safety of all pupils and staff at all times

