



British Values Policy

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Introduction

At High Point Academy, we promote 'British Values' through our SMSC education which supports the development of the 'whole child'. We recognise that such development is most successful when those values and attitudes are promoted by all the staff and provide a model of behaviour for our pupils.

Aims and Objectives

Democracy:

Democracy is the essence of our modern community. The ability to understand and communicate are the most important areas of learning. Furthermore, children should be able to develop an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process.

Rule of Law:

An important part of British values is the understanding that any society or community can only work well, and protect all its members, if there are rules which everyone is expected to follow.

Individual Liberty:

Pupils should be encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and be advised on how to exercise these safely.

Mutual Respect:

Children should be taught to respect and value others, whether they hold the same views as they do, or exhibit the same behaviours as they do, or not.

Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs:

Children are taught that everyone has a right to their own belief and to practice their own religion, as long as they are not stopping others from doing the same.

Provision

Democracy

Every pupil is given a 'voice' to communicate. This 'voice' could be using words, objects, photographs, pictures, symbols, signing, eye pointing or body language. Every pupil is given 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. High Point Academy has an active School Council. School Councillors were elected through a fair vote in each class. They meet fortnightly and carry out meetings in a democratic way, learning to listen to each other and access the decision of the majority. They feedback to their class on a weekly basis and act as messengers of their peers.

Rule of Law

We involve pupils in setting codes of behaviour; helping pupils to make decisions and choices that are acceptable to the school community and society at large. 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. This type of environment enables pupils to feel safe and secure; this in turn, promotes the optimum conditions for learning to take place.

Individual Liberty

We support each pupil to become as independent as possible. Learning to do things independently is an important part of learning to understand yourself. We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights; this includes the right to say 'Yes' or 'No' to ideas or activities.

Many of our pupils will be able to take responsibility for roles and to understand that with certain rights come certain responsibilities. We support others by participating in charitable events such as Red Nose Day/Comic Relief and Children in Need. We believe that engendering a caring and helpful environment and being independent can boost and nurture a healthy self-esteem.

Mutual respect

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around values such as respect and inclusion. Pupils will be part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. This is reiterated through our school rules, Learning Values and our behaviour policy.

All adults throughout the school demonstrate high levels of respect towards each other and towards all children.

Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

We are part of a school and local community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.

Cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum. We place great emphasis on providing encounters and participation in events and celebrations to broaden all pupils' experiences and awareness of others.

Our Assemblies help all pupils to find out about themselves and others linking their lives to the communities in which they belong. Pupils are encouraged to experience British Culture through our curriculum themes. For example, pupils will visit many local places. As a school,

we take part in sporting activities which helps to instil 'fair play' and engender a 'team spirit'.

Monitoring and Review

The Deputy Head Teacher works closely with the Head Teacher and the Local Academy Council to ensure British Values are strongly embedded in the school curriculum, by constantly and consistently being reinforced in the daily and annual running of the school,