



Rush Green Primary School

British Values Policy



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INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

Overview and Rationale

“We want every school to promote the basic British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs.” *Lord Nash*

At Rush Green Primary School, we develop and promote British Values throughout our school and within our curriculum. A key part of our plan for education is to ensure children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

British Values

- The Rule of Law
- Democracy
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs

To do this our children will develop:

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- An acceptance that people having different faiths and beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of discriminatory behaviour
- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combating discrimination. The vision statement and aims of the school clearly reflect these values, and the whole school strives to uphold them.
- Ensure that all members of the school community are aware that unlawful or unsafe behaviour is unacceptable and that, where appropriate, disciplinary or legal action will be taken.
- Minimise the risk of misplaced or malicious allegations made against adults who work with students.

VISION STATEMENT

Our school is committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating environment. We value and promote shared personal achievement, high standards and respect for the individual. We believe that by working together we build understanding of one another and develop the self-esteem of every individual.

This vision statement represents the principles that we strive towards at Rush Green Primary School. Throughout our school we hope to show how we translate these aims into practice.

OUR SCHOOL AIMS

Our aims stand upon three fundamental principles;

- To provide every child with the life skills to become successful learners who reach their full potential.
- To provide a safe, supportive, stimulating and inclusive environment where every child is recognised, cared for, encouraged and valued.
- At Rush Green primary School we will actively ensure the involvement of the whole community, particularly families, who have a vital role in supporting their children’s education. This partnership will encourage healthy and positive attitudes motivating children to become life-long learners.

IN OUR SCHOOL

As a school, we value and celebrate the diverse heritages of everybody at RGPS. Alongside this, we value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, this means that we celebrate traditions and customs in the course of the year; for example, Easter Bonnet parades in the Spring Term and Carol concerts at Christmas. We also value and celebrate national focusses, examples being; Macmillan Coffee Morning, Anti-Bullying Day and Safer Internet Day, with many more opportunities planned in throughout the year to collaborate with the wider community and world e.g. Children in Need and donating glasses to Eyes for Africa.

Further to this, children learn about being part of Britain from different perspectives. Specific examples of when we teach about being part of Britain are:

Geographically: Our rivers, coasts and seaside holiday topics ensure that children have a better understanding of what Britain is, learning more about its coasts, rivers and mountains as well as where Britain is in relation to the rest of Europe and other countries in the world.

Historically: Key moments in British history are studied in the topics such as ‘Guy Fawkes’, ‘London’s Burning’, and ‘World War II’ alongside significant historical figures.

PSHE: British values are also taught explicitly once per half term within our PSHE Curriculum.

Value	When it is taught
Democracy	Autumn
The rule of law	Spring 1
Individual liberty	Spring 2
Mutual respect	Summer 1
Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs	Summer 2

See overview document for more detail.

The table below is an indication of where we can find evidence to show that British Values are an intrinsic part of school life at Rush Green Primary School.

Value	In Our School	Evidence
Democracy	Children, parents and staff have many opportunities for their voices to be heard at Rush Green Primary School. An obvious example is our School Council. The election of the School Council members reflects our British	School Council Pupil voice Learning walks for behaviour

	<p>electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action: candidates make speeches, pupils consider characteristics important for an elected representative, pupils vote in secret using ballot. Made up of one representative from each class, the School Council meets regularly to discuss issues raised by the different classes. The council is able to effect change within the school. The Council are actively involved in providing teachers with feedback.</p> <p>Another example of 'pupil voice' is: Children are asked to respond and reflect on the teaching and learning they receive as well as make suggestions for the School Council to consider.</p> <p>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. We encourage pupils to take ownership of not only their school but also of their own learning and progress. This encourages a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility and is demonstrated on a daily basis by our pupils.</p> <p>Parents' opinions are welcomed at Rush Green Primary through methods such as questionnaires, surveys at parents' evenings and opportunities to comment on whole school matters e.g. After school provision and policy making.</p>	
The rule of law	The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern our school or our country, are referred to and reinforced often, such as in assemblies and when reflecting on behaviour choices. At the start of the school year, each class discusses the school rules and class routines, principles that are clearly understood	Vision Statement/ School aims Behaviour Policy Display of class rules in each classroom, Lunchtime rules Curriculum links e.g. Crime and Punishment (See curriculum map) Class Charters (PSHE).

	<p>by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every class member is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment, these rules are displayed in each class along with the Code of Conduct of the school. These rules play a fundamental role in our behaviour sanctions and rewards and are linked to our Stay on Green behaviour policy.</p> <p>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. These values are reinforced in different ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visits from authorities such as the police and fire service • Cycling Proficiency lessons enable children to understand the rules of the road and the potential dangers encountered should they break those rules. • During Religious Education, when rules for particular faiths are thought about • During other school subjects, where there is respect and appreciation for different rules 	<p>PSHE lessons on the rule of law and parliament, school council meetings and Collective Worship RE planning and books. PSHE Concept maps Learning walks for behaviour</p>
<p>Individual liberty</p>	<p>Alongside rules and laws, we promote freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs. Through the provision of a safe, supportive environment, we provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely; for example: choices about how they can improve their learning Choices around the participation in extra-curricular activities</p> <p>Our school houses of Honour, Courage, Endeavour and Determination also highlight the traits needed for success.</p> <p>Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights</p>	<p>Vision Statement/School aims Behaviour policy P.S.H.E policy Displays of children’s work Children’s key roles and responsibilities Children are able to show independence in learning and to think for themselves. Children are further empowered through being part of School Council and being able to take part in pupil forums which link directly to the senior leadership team or governors. Children are given the freedom to make a wide range of choices from attending extra-curricular clubs to supporting fund raising events.</p>

	<p>and personal freedoms and are taught how to exercise these safely, such as in our PSHE lessons. We use the Jigsaw resources across the whole school.</p> <p>By teaching the children how to manage and understand emotions they will be motivated and equipped to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be effective and successful learners • Make and sustain friendships • Deal with and resolve conflict evenly and fairly • Solve problems with others by themselves • Manage strong feelings such as frustration, anger or anxiety • Be able to promote calm and optimistic states that promote the achievement of goals • Recover from setbacks and persist in the face of difficulties • Work and play cooperatively • Compete fairly and win or lose with dignity and respect for all competitors • Recognise and stand up for their rights and the rights of others • Understand the value the differences and commonalities between people, respecting the rights of others to have beliefs and values different to their own. • To respect and value our world, and the things, both material and alive that exist within it. • Children in Year 5 and 6 are given key roles and responsibilities such as Play leaders and Prefects. • Through opportunities such as our extra-curricular and Lunch Time clubs, and Residential Trips, pupils are given the freedom to make safe choices. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children at Rush Green are encouraged to make choices knowing they are in a safe and supportive environment. 	
Mutual respect	<p>We have high expectations of achievement and behaviour. Children and staff are polite and kind. We believe everyone has their own special gifts and we are expected to use them.</p> <p>We listen and respect each other. We teach the children that conflict will be dealt with calmly and fairly. All members of the school family are valued equally. We celebrate lunch time behaviour and taking care of our school environment and celebrate each other's achievements whether that be in or out of school through our weekly Achievement Assemblies. Teachers plan exciting, interesting, challenging and innovative lessons where everybody is expected to do their best and respect others.</p>	<p>Vision Statement/School aims Behaviour policy P.S.H.E policy Roles and Responsibilities Display of children's activities Display of positive values around school Records of PSHE Sessions / Collective Worship. RE Curriculum RE planning and books. Learning walks for behaviour and behaviour for learning school Values Planned events for pupils to go in to community and beyond which include: sports events, place of worship visits.</p>
Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs	<p>Rush Green Primary School are proud to promote and celebrate our different backgrounds and beliefs. Tolerance, politeness and mutual respect are at the heart of our aims, ethos, PSHE and R.E curriculum.</p> <p>Our central aim to prepare children for the future drives us towards ensuring that our pupils are able to live and work alongside people from all backgrounds and cultures. This will be particularly necessary in a future where due to technological advances will make the 'world a smaller place.'</p> <p>Our pupils know and understand that it is expected that respect is shown to everyone and to everything, whatever differences we may have. Children learn that their behaviour choices have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community are encouraged to treat each other with respect.</p>	<p>Vision Statement /school aims P.S.H.E policy R.E. policy</p>

	<p>Specific examples of how we at Rush Green Primary School enhance pupils' understanding and respect for different faiths and beliefs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Through Religious Education, PSHE and other lessons where we develop awareness and appreciation of other cultures – in Literacy lessons through fiction and in Art and Music and French by considering cultures from other parts of the world.•Celebrating cultural differences through assemblies, themed weeks, noticeboards and displays. <p>Children are encouraged to share their own experiences when celebrating their own faith. Activities within school support both children and adults of different or no faith, the children are taught respect and tolerance of these groups and the opinions of the groups are taken into account with all activities. Whilst instances contrary to our values are relatively rare, each is treated seriously in line with our policies and expectations.</p>	
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