



BRITISH VALUES STATEMENT

Date Published	Sept 2015
Version	12
Review Cycle	1 year
Review Date	September 2027

An academy within:



"Learning together; to be the best we can be"

Our Values - British Values



Introduction

In September 2014, a non-statutory guidance was published by the DFE reminding schools of their duty to provide a broad and balanced curriculum meeting children's spiritual, social, moral and cultural needs and to acutely promote fundamental British Values.

This Policy statement represents the response by the Governors of Abbey School.

Schools should promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and a mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. (DFE Nov 2014)

At Abbey School, British Values underpin our vision of "Learning together; to be the best we can be." We believe these values prepare pupils to become respectful, responsible and active citizens who contribute positively to modern Britain and the wider world.

British Values at Abbey School :

At Abbey 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
- Participation in Community Life.

Abbey School actively promotes equality, diversity and inclusion. Through our curriculum and wider school experiences, pupils develop an understanding of the protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act 2010 and learn the importance of respecting differences, challenging discrimination and treating everyone fairly.

These values are taught explicitly through PSHE, RSHE, Religious Education (RE), assemblies, enrichment opportunities and the wider curriculum.

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through daily collective worship and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running a successful School Council. We also actively promote British Values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values.



Our School Mascots also promote these values through our house system and events also linked to the protected characteristics.

The promotion of British Values is closely linked to our safeguarding responsibilities. Through RSHE, PSHE, online safety, assemblies and the wider curriculum, pupils develop the knowledge, skills and resilience needed to recognise and challenge prejudice, discrimination, misinformation and extremist views.

At Abbey School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and our Listen-up Project. The elections of members of the School Council are based on pupil votes.

Abbey pupils are given opportunity to nominate each other and staff for special mentions. Their name is shown on the interactive whiteboard in assembly to celebrate this. The Pupil parliament also promote these in their newsletter distributed to the whole school.

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 regular school days. Our system for behaviour is aligned to an agreed set of rules and if children are given verbal warnings this is always set against the agreed school behaviour code.

Children are asked to identify which aspect of the school rules they have broken to ensure that this connection is made and understood. 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 police, fire service etc are regular parts of our calendar and 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 pupil's efforts. Rewards are given in the form of stickers, achievement points and special mentions. Pupils achievements are also recognised during weekly assemblies.

Individual Liberty



Pupils are actively encouraged to make choice at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely through the provision of a safe environment and planned curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely. A good example is the e-safety teaching.

Pupils are also taught responsible digital citizenship, including respectful online behaviour, safe use of technology, critical thinking, identifying misinformation and understanding how to stay safe within online communities.

Pupils are given the freedom to make choices e.g. lunchtime clubs, food at break and dinnertimes, vocational and enterprise learning lessons.

Mutual Respect

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy are based around the core value of respect. We teach our pupils to respect the many diverse faiths and beliefs that we have at Abbey and to embrace everyone's differences. We look after each and the environment around us.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs.

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse Rotherham. We give them opportunities to experience such diversity in the local community. Collective Worship and discussions involving prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PHSRE. We use opportunities such as the Theme days, Cultural Celebration events, Religious Festivals, The Olympics and The World Cup to study and learn about life and cultures in other countries.

Through these experiences, pupils develop an understanding of different cultures, faiths, beliefs and backgrounds, whilst recognising the shared values that unite communities.

Participation in Community Life

Abbey School encourages pupils to become active members of their school and wider community. Pupils have opportunities to participate in charity fundraising, environmental projects, pupil leadership activities, community events and partnerships with local organisations. Through these experiences, pupils learn the importance of social responsibility, teamwork and making a positive contribution to society.



Values	Evidence / Provision
There are high expectations for all.	• School vision and aims displayed • School improvement priorities displayed and shared • Staff follow up pupils who are not adhering to the school standards - uniform, behaviour, presentation. • School rules are evident • 'We can do...' overheard. • Pupils know and understand their targets academically and personally and have opportunity to self-assess
Mutual Respect is evident in the way that staff and pupils relate to each other.	• Pupils show respect towards each other and towards staff e.g. school rules • Pupils have a voice through school council and Listen up • Staff listen to pupils and respond appropriately to their needs - Listen up • Behaviour for Learning is a strength of the school e.g. SEF • Positive relationships are evident on a daily basis e.g. external reports
The school promotes positive attitude towards Ethnic and Cultural Diversity.	• Our school uses the expertise , skills and knowledge of people from ethnic minority communities. • Our pupils are encouraged to recognise and respect social, ethnic minority communities. • Our pupils are encouraged to recognise and respect social, ethnic, cultural differences and similarities. • Curriculum content and resources reflect ethnic and cultural diversity. • Celebrations of festivals of different cultures and religious beliefs are evident. # • Our International Schools projects also promote this further so pupils can understand life beyond their own communities



Pupils have Rights as well as responsibilities	• Pupils are exercising Leadership skills e.g. school council. • School council information is shared and displayed. • Pupils are as buddies for other pupils. • Pupils learn about protected characteristics through assemblies, curriculum lessons and themed events. • Pupils are encouraged to challenge stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination in an age-appropriate manner.
	• Pupils are aware and articulate their rights and responsibilities. • Investors in Pupils boards are evidence of pupils rights and responsibilities. • Pupils help to determine rewards, rules and sanctions. • Staff use restorative justice to support consequence learning. • Pupils are part of a school house Attitude, Heart Courage or Respect • We are a Rights respecting recognised school and our PHSRE curriculum links to these rights
Pupils achievements are celebrated.	• A wide range of work is displayed • Displays are up to date and in good condition • Displays, photos, newsletter items cover a range of achievements academic, social, cultural, sporting both in and out of school • Positive and public appreciation of effort as well as success - awards assemblies, badges, stickers, achievement points and certificates. • Pupils have a reflective Friday session in which they reflect upon their favourite piece of work during that week. • Regular home-school communication focuses on pupils efforts and successes. • Good behaviour and learning achievements are rewarded and celebrated. • Pupils have a reward system that allows them to buy a prize with achievement points.



Teaching and Learning are enjoyable for both pupils and adults.	• Every classroom is immersive in the topic that the pupils are learning about. • Laughter, enthusiasm, energy and active participation are evident in learning situations. • Low rates of absenteeism - Pupils and staff • Pupils are keen to talk about their work.
The School environment is a safe place - emotional and physical security are prioritised.	• Rules are displayed and are being followed. A premises team meet to monthly review the physical needs of the building for safety. All visitors wear badges - colours dependent upon DBS checking. • Pupils and staff move around the building in an orderly manner. • Through the PHSRE curriculum Pupils are given opportunities to learn about human feelings and emotions and the way they impact on people. • Anti-bullying, safeguarding and behaviour policies are on the school website.
The Role of families as Partners in the Learning process is recognised and valued.	• When families visit by appointment they are seen promptly. • Home-school books are used by some pupils. The views of the parents / carers about school are actively sought. • Family newsletters are informative and clear to understand. • Letters are sent home in a variety of languages. • Family workshops and training are available. • Family group actively support the school in fundraising.