

Baines' Endowed Primary School and Children's Centre, a Church of England Academy

Promoting British Values

Philosophy and Purpose

The government set out its definition of British values in 2011, and these values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister in 2014. The DfE have recently reinforced the need for schools to ensure that the curriculum...

“Actively promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs”.

At Baines' Endowed we are committed to upholding these values. We ensure that they are reinforced regularly through teaching and learning which has a clear focus on enabling pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Our SIAMS report (Jan 2015) noted that:

“Strong emphasis is placed on moral and spiritual development, clearly based on the school's Christian values. These values, which include endurance, forgiveness and hope, are shared and understood by all involved in the life of the school. Pupils talk about how these values impact on their lives and the lives of others. They say that ‘The school's values help us to be better. They show us how to behave and help each other in school.’

Similarly our Ofsted report (Oct 2014) noted:

“the school's strong links with the local church and community, contribute to pupils' good spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.”

“The early years provision makes a strong contribution to children's physical and emotional health, safety and well-being, and also to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.”

Our mission statement:

With God's help we work, grow and succeed together.

The mission statement of our school is the starting point. This requires us to promote positive behaviours in line with our Christian values. It encourages us to value others, to develop self-control, to work together, to be aware of both our rights and our responsibilities in ensuring our school and our community are positive environments for all.

Democracy

Respect for democracy, democratic participation and active involvement of all pupils is evident across the school. We aim to provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of, and promote respect for, public institutions and services. Our aim is to teach pupils how they can influence decision-making through the democratic process.

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard and are able to express their views freely through our Pupil questionnaires, pupil teacher conferencing and School Council.

The elections of School Council, Eco Council and Rotakids representatives each year are based solely on pupil votes (which helps to highlight some of the advantages and disadvantages of democracy and how it works in Britain). This effective involvement of pupils in democratic procedures enables them to influence and make decisions in matters which affect their lives within school. Our pupils happily take on a range of responsibilities, such as being a member of the School Council or the Eco Council or supporting the behaviour of younger pupils at lunchtime. They carry out their roles conscientiously and take pride in what they do and in so doing, they enhance the life of the school.

Our pupils are fully involved in the annual review and development of our Development Plan and in discussing both key policies such as our school behaviour policy involves rewards and sanctions which the pupils vote on. Our SIAMS report (Jan 2015) noted:

“The school’s strong Christian ethos enables and encourages the strong partnership that exists between pupils, staff, parents, the church and the wider community. This is characterized by the pupils’ good behaviour and the Christian care that exists within and between all members of the school family. Pupils get on well together and feel part of a welcoming and supportive Christian family.”

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 assemblies. Pupils are taught to have respect for the basis on which the law is made and how the law is applied in England. We aim to teach children the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect all of us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Classroom rules are formed at the start of each year by each teacher with their own pupils. The rules therefore differ from class to class, but are always in keeping with the philosophy underlying the policy. The keeping of rules is regularly rewarded in both formal and informal ways. Verbal and non-verbal praise is used extensively to reward children who demonstrate good behaviour.

Throughout the year we welcome visits from members of the wider community and from public institutions such as the Police, the Fire Service and the Mayor’s office to help reinforce the importance of the Rule of Law for our pupils. We ensure that school rules and expectations are clear and fair and our pupils understand that rules are there to protect us just as living under the rule of law protects all individuals.

Individual Liberty

We support pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety, Anti-Bullying Week, Children’s University and menu choices. Pupils are taught to respect the rights of others and to consider their responsibilities toward other people including taking responsibility for their behaviour. Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make good choices. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make choices safely through provision of a safe and secure environment and an empowering education.

Whether it is through choice of challenge, or of participation in our numerous extracurricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices about their education.

We implement and actively promote a strong anti-bullying culture in our school which ensures all children are aware of their responsibility for their actions towards others. This was recognised in our Ofsted report (October 2014):

“there are relatively few instances of poor behaviour, including racist or discriminatory incidents. If pupils do misbehave, staff act appropriately and effectively.”

Mutual Respect

Our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around our school’s mission statement, ‘With God’s help we work, grow and succeed together’ and our Curriculum Drivers of enhancing their understanding of spirituality, emotional awareness and their enquiry skills. In addition to this, our Christian Values of friendship, forgiveness, respect, truthfulness, courage and trust are evident across school. Pupils are expected to show mutual respect towards everything and everyone, regardless of individual differences, at all times.

All children, adults and visitors are expected to behave respectfully and we will challenge anybody who displays prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour. Pupils take part in assemblies and class discussions related to what this means and how it is shown.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and different beliefs.

We help pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life. This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding, through the curriculum, of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving pupils opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving identifying and combating discrimination, prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHCE. Our school is part of a local network of schools which enables children of different faiths, cultures and backgrounds to meet and socialise through a range of different learning opportunities. We encourage children to participate in a wide range of events and provide opportunities for pupils to serve the wider community in order to nurture tolerance and harmony, understanding and respect between all members of our society.

All children visit places of worship through our RE curriculum including a Catholic church, a mosque, a Hindu temple and a synagogue - recognised in our SIAMS report (Jan 2015):

“Pupils show great respect for others within school and have a growing understanding of differing faiths and cultures. This is enhanced by visits to the local synagogue and mosque and work on other world faiths.”

The Headteacher is a member of the local SACRE working closely with other faith leaders in Blackpool and so relationships are strong and we regularly have visitors from other faith backgrounds to enhance our curriculum.

EVALUATION AND REVIEW

We will monitor the implementation of this statement and evaluate its impact on pupils, parents and staff by:

- ◆ Consulting with parents and the school community as and when necessary.
- ◆ Reporting regularly to the Governors alongside other aspects of our Development Plan.
- ◆ Reviewing this statement regularly, at least every two years.

Policy last updated November 2015

The Promoting British Values Statement at Baines' Endowed Primary School and Children's Centre, a Church of England Academy will be reviewed and modified on a regular basis at least every two years.

It is possible to add amendments to this document prior to a review and these will be incorporated into the next issue. To add comments please complete the information on this sheet adding the date and signing where indicated.

Name of persons responsible - Miss J. Snape

Policy adopted by the Governing Body:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Date	Proposed Amendment	Signed