

OVERSTONE PARK SCHOOL

Promoting British Values Policy



Promoting British Values

Date	Review Date	Coordinator
September 2026	September 2027	Mrs M Brown Mrs J Brown Mrs D York Miss A West Mrs L Vippond

We believe this policy relates to the following legislation:

- Education Act 2002
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equalities Act 2010
- Children Act 2011
- Education Act 2011

The following documentation is also related to this policy:

- Citizenship and Belonging: What is Britishness? (Commission for Racial Equality)
- Diversity and Citizenship (DES)
- Equality Act 2010: Advice for Schools (DfE)
- Prevent Strategy 2011
- Promoting British values as part of SMSC (DES)
- Teachers' Standards (DfE)

We believe British values are best defined as 'democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs' although these values are not actually unique to Britain alone.

We support the rule of English and criminal law and we will not teach anything that undermines it.

We have a duty to actively promote and embed these values and to challenge pupils, school personnel or parents who express extremist views contrary to fundamental British values. We want to ensure pupils are prepared for life in modern Britain by the active promotion of and respect of British values.

We believe these values are reinforced regularly through a broad and balanced curriculum and through: being a UNICEF Rights Respecting school, the school council, pupil questionnaires, school councillor elections, class charters (Democracy); school rules, playground rules, safety rules, visits from the Police, visits to a council chamber and to meet local councillors (Rule of Law); e-Safety, PSHE, extra-curricular activities (Individual Liberty); Golden Rules, behaviour policy (Mutual Respect); RE, PSHE, celebration of different faiths and cultures, visits to places of worship of world faiths, promoting languages of EAL pupils, links with schools in other countries (Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs).

We give pupils 'first-hand experience of the diverse make-up of modern British society' by teaching them respect for other faiths and developing their awareness and knowledge of communities different than their own.

We value the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all our pupils and throughout the year we hold a variety of events to celebrate these.

We 'expect teachers to uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school' and 'not to undermine fundamental British values'.

We aim to be judged at least good in all school inspections by ensuring that pupils understand the importance of British values and leave school ready to play their full part in British society.

We wish to work closely with the School Council and to hear their views and opinions as we acknowledge and support Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child that children should be encouraged to form and to express their views.

We as a school community have a commitment to promote equality. Therefore, an equality impact assessment has been undertaken and we believe this policy is in line with the Equality Act 2010.

We believe it is essential that this policy clearly identifies and outlines the roles and responsibilities of all those involved in the procedures and arrangements that is connected with this policy.

Aims

- To actively promote and embed British values.
- To give pupils first-hand experience of the diverse make-up of modern British society.
- To challenge pupils, school personnel or parents who express extremist views contrary to fundamental British values.
- To keep our pupils safe and ensure they are prepared for life in modern Britain by the active promotion of and respect of British values.
- To share good practice within the school and with other schools.
- To ensure compliance with all relevant legislation connected to this policy.
- To work with other schools and the local authority to share good practice in order to improve this policy.

Responsibility for the Policy and Procedure

Role of the Principal and Senior Leadership Team

The Principal and the Senior Leadership Team will:

- ensure all school personnel, pupils and parents are aware of and comply with this policy;
- be prepared for all types of school inspection; work closely with the link governor;
- challenge any pupil, member of the school personnel, or parent who expresses opinions contrary to fundamental British values;
- provide leadership and vision in respect of equality;
- provide guidance, support and training to all staff;
- make effective use of relevant research and information to improve this policy;
- monitor the effectiveness of this policy by monitoring learning and teaching through observing lessons, monitoring planning and assessment, and speaking with pupils, school personnel, parents and governors;
- annually report on the success and development of this policy.

Role of School Personnel

School personnel will:

- comply with all aspects of this policy;
- maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour within and outside school and not to undermine fundamental British values;
- work hard to maintain a positive ethos;
- work hard to maintain a safe and respected school environment;

- show respect for all members of the school community;
- develop positive working relationships with pupils, school personnel, parents and governors;
- plan and deliver good to outstanding lessons;
- have expectations of their pupils;
- achieve high standards;
- celebrate the success of pupils in lessons;
- promote good behaviour;
- be aware of all other linked policies;
- work in partnership parents and carers keeping them up to date with their child's progress and behaviour at school;
- implement the school's equalities policy and schemes;
- report and deal with all incidents of discrimination;
- attend appropriate training sessions on equality;
- report any concerns they have on any aspect of the school community.

Teaching British Values

Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those of Different Faiths are taught across all year groups, from Foundation through to Years 6 - 11.

Role of Pupils

Pupils will:

- be aware of and comply with this policy;
- be encouraged to work in partnership with the school by making decisions and exercising choice in relation to their educational programme;
- listen carefully to all instructions given by the teacher;
- ask for further help if they do not understand;
- participate fully in all lessons;
- participate in discussions concerning progress and attainment;
- treat others, their work and equipment with respect;
- support the school Code of Conduct and guidance necessary to ensure the smooth running of the school;
- talk to others without shouting and will use language which is neither abusive nor offensive;
- liaise with the school council;
- take part in questionnaires and surveys.

Role of the School Council

The School Council will be involved in determining this policy, discussing improvements to this policy during the school year, organising surveys to gauge the thoughts of all pupils, and reviewing the effectiveness of this policy.

Role of Parents/Carers

Parents/carers will be aware of and comply with this policy; be encouraged to take an active role in the life of the school by attending parents and open evenings, parent-teacher consultations, class assemblies, school concerts, and fundraising and social events; be encouraged to work in school as volunteers; be encouraged to organise after school clubs or groups; be asked to take part in periodic surveys conducted by the school; ensure regular and punctual attendance; notify school on the first day of pupil absence; encourage effort and achievement; encourage completion of homework and return it to school; provide the right conditions for homework to take place; expect their child to hand in homework on time; join the school in celebrating success of their child's learning; support the school Code of Conduct and guidance necessary to ensure smooth running of the school; and ensure correct school uniform is worn.

Raising Awareness of this Policy

- School Handbook/Prospectus; School website; Staff Handbook;
- Meetings with parents such as introductory, transition, parent-teacher consultations and periodic curriculum workshops;
- School events; Meetings with school personnel;
- Written communications with home such as weekly newsletters and end of half term newsletters;
- Annual report to parents; Headteacher reports to the Governing Body;
- Information displays in the main school entrance; Text messages; Email;
- Social media: Facebook, Twitter, virtual pin boards, school blog.

Training

All school personnel have equal chances of training, career development and promotion; receive training on induction which specifically covers all aspects of this policy, Ethos, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural, Dealing with Extremism and Radicalisation, PSHE, RE, Equal opportunities and Inclusion; receive periodic training so that they are kept up to date with new information; and receive equal opportunities training on induction in order to improve their understanding of the Equality Act 2010 and its implications.

Equality Impact Assessment

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school. (See Initial Equality Impact Assessment)

Principal:	Mrs M F Brown	Date:	September 2027
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