



## *Eton Park Junior School* **British values statement**

Our school is committed to actively promoting British values to ensure our students leave us fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

The government emphasises that all schools should ensure that they teach students about British values. We take every opportunity to promote the fundamental British values of:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect of those with different faiths and beliefs

Through the promotion of these values, our school aims to ensure students:

- Understand the democratic process and how citizens can have a say in decision making.
- Recognise the advantages of living under the rule of law and how law is essential for a safe society.
- Understand that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary and why it exists.
- Understand the reasons for accountability of institutions and why courts maintain independence.
- Know why freedom of religion protects all faiths, as well as those with no faith.
- Accept that people who hold different religious beliefs should be tolerated and not discriminated against.
- Value the importance of identifying and combating extremism.

We promote British values both within and beyond the classroom and these values are at the heart of our ethos. Here are just some of the ways our school seeks to embed the teaching of British values.

## **Democracy**

Children have the opportunity to have their voices heard in school. Pupil Voice is accessed readily during class work and is evidenced in classroom displays and whole class display books. The school also carries out regular questionnaires with the pupils to ascertain their thoughts and feelings about our school. The findings are shared with staff and Governors and form part of the school's self-evaluation and future planning. School Councillors are elected democratically, voting in each class at the beginning of each year. The Class Dojo system has prize boundaries that the children have to vote on for their class each half term.

## **The rule of law**

The importance of laws, whether they be those in class, the school or the country are reinforced in school regularly through the SMSC whole school curriculum overview and whole school assembly. Across the school there is a clear code of conduct with rules agreed by the pupils. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind school rules and national laws that protect us, look after us and govern us. We discuss with the children and make clear the consequences when rules in school and laws of the land are broken. We arrange visitors to speak with the children such as the Police or Staffordshire Road Safety team to discuss road safety, bike safety, fire and water hazards, stranger danger and the NSPCC. We have participated in virtual tours at The Houses of Parliament to understand the law creation process.

## **Individual liberty**

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make personal choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, we educate boundaries for children to make choices safely.

Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through E-safety. Children have the freedom of choice in respect of extra-curricular clubs that they can get involved in, whether they are before or after school.

## **Mutual respect of those with different faiths and beliefs**

Part of our school ethos and positive behaviour policy has revolved around our values to work hard, be kind and choose wisely. Our values are reflected in our school rules, display, newsletters and website and in the curriculum where opportunities arise. Where pupils show the value of being kind or mutual respect, they may be awarded Class Dojo points. School Councillors remind children in their class of good core values of behaviour in school and towards others when visiting classrooms.

This is achieved through enhancing children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity through our Curriculum. Assemblies' are planned termly to recognise key dates within different faiths and cultures such as Ramadan and Holi. Assemblies are followed up and supported by learning in SMSC and RE. Members of different faiths are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within our school.

We participate in special events such as the Royal Jubilee, Royal Weddings, Political Elections, Cultural weeks and Remembrance events.

On a more general level, the school undertakes assemblies which uphold traditional values of empathy, respect and tolerance. These are also taught within formal SMSC and RE lessons and in an informal nature throughout the school days.

