



## TEACHING AND PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES AT STOCKLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

At Stockland Primary Academy we understand that the society we live in is diverse and therefore, our curriculum and life within school reflects this. For our pupils, we aim to continually weave the thread of social, cultural, moral and spiritual British values throughout day to day school life. We aim to build a community that is cohesive and that challenges any ideology that seeks to undermine that cohesion. Underpinning this are the values and understanding of democracy, law, individual liberty, respect, tolerance, tradition and heritage. The 'Equality Act 2010' protects all individuals from discrimination and it is the schools duty to ensure that all individuals have equal access and opportunity to all that is on offer. Funding, including that for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and disadvantaged pupils, is used to target inequalities, to ensure equality.

The DfE has recently reinforced the need **“to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. “**

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated (2014). Copies of the 2011 Prevent Strategy can be found in the school staffroom.

### **‘Learning Today for the World of Tomorrow’**

Stockland Primary Academy is a happy, secure, friendly and welcoming school, with a true family and community atmosphere, in which all staff and pupils are positive, caring and optimistic. They engage with and enjoy their learning and smile! The staff and governors also enjoy what they do and do it very well. Our school community has high expectations, both in terms of achievement and behaviour, and everyone is expected to do their best and to use their special gifts and talents, at their own particular level. At Stockland Primary Academy, all members of the school family and the contributions they make to the school are greatly valued. Kindness and politeness are expected at all times, and people are always

acknowledged and thanked for what they do. 'Care', 'tolerance', 'trust' and 'respect' are very important to us.

**Stockland Primary Academy teaches and promotes explicitly the following key British Values in these outlined ways**

**Democracy**



Pupil Voice is important at Stockland Primary Academy and staff listen to the children. The children discuss and decide upon the features of the Nine Ways to Shine behaviour diamond. Democracy is displayed when classes vote for school council representatives following an election process. This ensures every class has a say on the decisions that are made in our school. The council meets every week to discuss any issues raised in School Council meetings. School Council meetings are minuted and shared with staff. Year 6 children are prefects and are 'buddies' to the new children in Reception Class and other classes buddy together for specific activities.

Through PSHE and assemblies our curriculum encourages all aspects of respect for democracy and the democratic process. Individual children are also appointed for posts of responsibility in the classroom (Manager, Assistant, Recorder and Reporter). These rotate to establish fairness and equality. For example, there are play leaders who lead the engagement of activities and games at lunchtimes. All children complete an annual questionnaire where they are able to put forward their views about the school. Views are sought from parents and the wider community, through questionnaires and monthly Parent Forum meetings. The community is at the heart of the school and local issues are raised, discussed and acted upon.

Children are taught about democracy in this country and how it differs from other countries, including through history topics such as Ancient Greece. Levels of government and the voting system are explored. Imperfections in the democratic system are discussed. Children have an understanding of how citizens can influence decision making, both locally and nationally. Elections are discussed, in the context of the democratic process. Non democratic systems are explored and contrasts made. Children know what is on the news

locally, nationally and internationally and discuss it. Older children compose blog posts giving their views on news stories around the world. The school actively seeks to engage children in discussions about anti-social behaviour and gang culture, in a safe forum.

### **The rule of law**

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Stockland Primary Academy. Pupils are taught the rules of school from an early age in Reception and Year 1. Each class has an agreed set of rules and follow the 'Nine ways to Shine' behaviour diamond. The children are aware of the consequences of not following the rules in their school community and a simple card system makes this easily understandable by children of all ages. The children learn to understand the difference between right and wrong in all aspects of school life throughout the day. To that end there is little focus on reward charts and stickers as we uphold the importance of doing right things wholly because they are intrinsically the right things to do. Where rules are broken there is an opportunity for children to reflect and put right what has been done wrong, wherever possible and, in rare cases of bullying a restorative justice approach is used as appropriate.

There are clear policies for 'Positive Behaviour and Discipline', 'Anti-Bullying' and 'Ethnic Diversity and Race Relations'. There are also clear policies for Disability Equality, Special Educational Needs and Gender Equality. Children are given the opportunity to understand aspects of civil and criminal law and discuss how this might be different from some religious laws. Pupils in our school expect and receive a fair system where actions are always respectfully justified and where staff engage in dialogue around sanctions.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws: that they exist to govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Children look at threats to the rule of law, on an international, national and local level. Community cohesion is explored and its importance taught. Gang culture is discussed at local level with older children along with ways to avoid becoming involved with it.

Crime is discussed in a safe environment and in an age appropriate way, as a threat to the rule of law and community cohesion. The democratic nature of law making is made explicit (please see above). Children are taught age related law, eg the age of criminal culpability, age for driving, voting etc. Year 6 take part in a day of Life Skills run by the Police to help reinforce these messages further. Children are involved in road safety issues within the village and learn about local government through decisions made by the Parish and Town Council.

### **Individual Liberty**

At Stockland Primary Academy our pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights

and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety programme and assemblies.

Our children are encouraged to give their opinions and share these ideas with due regard for the feelings of others through the dialogic approach to learning evident in the classrooms. Children understand that their right to their own opinion is tempered by their duty to do what their parents and the school want them to do. Children have a right to be listened to and great value is placed on this in lessons and within the behaviour management policy. Children know that there is freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs and that this is protected by law.

Children also know that there are limits to individual liberty, for example racism, homophobic and bullying behaviour are not tolerated. As part of our curriculum, we place a huge emphasis on the social and emotional learning of our children and feel we send them off to secondary school as well rounded individuals, ready to undertake the next stage of their learning and life.

We celebrate children's achievements both in and out of school in assemblies, through certificates and by following a personalised approach. We know our children really well and they know they are part of community.

### **Mutual Respect**

Respect is at the heart of our values and one of our 'Nine ways to shine' behaviour diamond. Respect is one of the four most important words in our school ethos. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others via sanctions. All members of the school community treat each other with respect. This is an absolute expectation and features within our school ethos statement. Children are expected to demonstrate good manners, always be polite, kind and show courtesy to everybody and this is celebrated.

Older children participate weekly in sports fixtures against other schools where high levels of mutual respect are on display. Children also represent the school within the wider community and understand their responsibilities towards the community

The school, through its Curriculum, teaches respect for and makes comparisons between other countries and cultures in the world. For example, life in other countries and times of history underpin the importance of respect and tolerance.

### **Tolerance of those of different Faiths and Beliefs**

We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Religious Education lessons and PSHE lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Throughout school life the children are encouraged to discuss differences between people such as their faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality. They also discuss differences in family life such as looked after children or young carers. International and national failures in tolerance throughout history are discussed. Children have an

understanding of the importance of combating discrimination, and this is explored locally, nationally and internationally. Children understand that being British is about living with a wide range of people, from different backgrounds and that understanding the uniqueness of this has value for community cohesion, and world peace.

### **British Traditions and Heritage**

We celebrate the role of Britain both historically and in the present. We want pupils to have knowledge of and be proud of their British heritage and the cultural and historical traditions that we are renowned for the world over. This involves recognising or celebrating royal events, Remembrance Day, festivals such as Harvest, Christmas, Easter (alongside those from other cultures such as Eid, Diwali and Chinese New Year, for example). These form a part of our school calendar and are discussed during assemblies as they arise.

The school celebrates St George's Day and any other Saints days. Our history, music and art curricula, in particular, provide important ways in which we teach and celebrate British History and culture.

Forest School which teaches children about the great outdoors as well as essential life skills delves in to the heritage and traditions of our rural setting. We appreciate how lucky we are that our school is situated in such a lovely rural setting and we always try to make the best possible use of our beautiful grounds for learning.

We have a traditional and highly successful 'house' system which teaches the children the value of working together, teamwork and supporting one another of different ages. Children represent their house on Sports Day and participate in house events throughout the year. All children are taught the national anthem and a range of traditional Church of England hymns.

Sporting events celebrate British traditions and heritage, as well as the Olympics. Children and families enjoy tea and mince pies and pancakes at events throughout the year as well as strawberries and cream on sports day. These experiences build memories in the children that will stand the test of time and allow our pupils to become good, effective citizens who make a positive contribution to society. The school takes part in local celebrations including the annual Stockland Village Fayre.

We teach our children to respect everyone regardless of any differences. Our 'Home Academy agreement' encourages partnership with our families, and we work very hard to involve everybody in the life of the school. Through our curriculum and ethos, we always seek to develop our teaching of British Values further and look at different ways of celebrating what is inherently British, whilst recognising our brothers and sisters from other cultures in Britain and around the world.

