



## Policy for British Values Petersfield Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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### **God teaches us we are all equal, valued and unique.**

We are a small rural school with deeply held Christian values which motivate and inspire us to provide a rich and diverse education. **"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."** John 10:10.

**Love:** 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - It is integral in all our decision-making. This equips our children for all aspects in life, as they grow and reach their full potential.

**Trust:** Isaiah 26:4 - It encourages the whole school to work together for the mutual benefit of all, promoting an excellent working relationship

**Peace:** Thessalonians 5:13 - It helps us to respect each other, recognising all opinions to provide a safe and inclusive learning environment that encourages discussion of all ideas, so promoting a deeper understanding of each other and the wider world. **Friendship:** Luke 6:31 - We constantly strive to build and foster the positive relationships so providing a safe and caring environment in which to learn.

**Creativity:** Romans 12:6 - Each one of us has a unique talent, we all have inherent creativity, and we actively encourage this in all aspects of school life.

### **Introduction**

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key 'British Values' are taught in all UK schools. The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

The fundamental British Values are: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Petersfield Church of England (A) Primary School is committed to actively promoting British Values and serving its community. We will actively challenge children, staff or parents who express opinions that are contrary to fundamental British values including extremist views. We recognise the multicultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom.

Our school is dedicated to preparing pupils for their adult life beyond the formal curriculum and ensuring that we promote and reinforce British Values to all pupils. We are committed to actively promoting British Values, which complement our own vision and values statement.

### **Democracy**

Democracy is embedded in our school. Children are listened to carefully and with compassion, and are taught to listen carefully to others. Children are taught to respect the right of individuals to have their voices and opinions heard. They are taught to discuss issues in a balanced and calm way. Each year the children review their class rules and our citizenship expectations to ensure that they are still relevant. The School Council meets regularly and discusses issues raised in class or as a whole school. Each council member is voted for by their own class. The School Council influence, challenge and change many aspects of school life and take an active role in monitoring school improvement. The principle of democracy is also explored in the History, PSHCE and Religious Education curriculum as well as in assemblies.

## **The rule of law**

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school or the country are consistently reinforced. Pupils are taught from an early age the value of our rules. Children are taught the value and the reason behind the rules and the laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibility this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits to the Magistrates courts, visits from the Police and the fire service help to reinforce this message. Each class decides on its own rules to ensure their room is a happy, respectful, constructive and safe place in which to learn. Class rules and school rules ensure a safe and orderly work place. Roles of responsibility enable the children to reflect on how to make a contribution and our behaviour expectations challenge the children to consistently make positive behaviour choices.

## **Individual liberty**

Pupils are actively encouraged to make the right choices, knowing they are in a safe and supportive environment. Children are expected to take responsibility for their own actions and to understand the consequence their actions might have. We educate and provide boundaries for children to enable them to make informed choices, through a safe and supportive environment. The understanding of rights and responsibilities are promoted through Collective Worship, E-safety, PSHCE. Whether it is through choice of challenge; of how they record; of participation in extra- curricular activities; our pupils are given the freedom to make choices. All adults within our school community pro-actively build trusting, respectful relationships with all children to boost self-esteem and enable children to confidently make good choices.

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

Our school community does not reflect a wide cultural diversity which makes such learning opportunities and experiences even more important in preparation for later life and in understanding the cultural diversity of British society. Mutual respect is at the heart of our ethos and values. Our children know and understand that our expectation is the appreciation and respect of difference in all its forms. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect. The school recognises its role in preparing children for life in modern Britain. As a church school, we promote celebrations of different faiths and cultures. Through RE, English texts, art stimuli, learning about famous people from across the globe, meeting people from the wider community and personal and social education we reinforce messages of tolerance and respect.

## **The curriculum**

Staff regularly review the curriculum to ensure that it promotes the areas above. It also ensures that pupils are taught about key events and figures in history. Events during the year celebrate culturally diverse occasions and memorable events taking place in the country. This will enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in the UK.

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

The Governors and staff at Petersfield Primary School will:

- Ensure that fundamental British values are embedded as an integral part of the ethos and culture
- Challenge opinions or behaviours in school by students, staff, visitors, volunteers or parents that are contrary to fundamental British values, including extremist views
- Ensure that all visitors to our school are screened to ensure that they do not attempt to promote systems that undermine fundamental British values including extremism or radicalisation
- Ensure all students within the school, regardless of age, have a voice that is listened to
- Demonstrate how democracy works and by developing an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making by actively promoting democratic processes such as electing a school council whose members are voted for by the students

- Ensure that our students are taught a balanced RE curriculum, that is broadly Christian but, which also takes account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Britain
- Enable our students to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to our local community and life in modern Britain
- Ensure an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination, extremism and radicalisation
- Ensure that there are effective risk assessments and screening policies and procedures in place to safeguard and promote students' welfare against the threat of extremism and radicalisation.