

Reviewed: February 2017

Promoting Fundamental British Values Policy

Aims

This policy sets out the ways in which the Northumberland PRU encourages pupils to develop their understanding of the 4 key areas defined by DfE as British values through curricular and other opportunities.

Ethos

At the PRU we ensure through our vision, values, relationships and teaching we promote tolerance and respect for all cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The SLT also ensure that this ethos is reflected and implements effectively through school policy and practice and that there are safeguarding policies in place to safeguard and promote pupils' welfare. We have a duty to prepare our pupils for life in modern Britain and to keep them safe. Everyone at the PRU has the right to learn and work in safety. We do not tolerate bullying of any kind and will challenge derogatory language and behaviour towards others.

Background

As of November 2014 the government published guidance on promoting British values in schools to ensure that young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain. Within this, all schools are required to ensure that the curriculum actively promotes these values.

Definitions

- Fundamental British values are defined by the DfE as:
- Democracy: respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process
- The rule of law: respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in Britain
- Individual liberty: support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- Mutual respect and tolerance: support for equality of opportunity for all and respect and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs.

Curriculum

We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are offered a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to prepare them for life in modern Britain. We encourage our pupils to be inquisitive learners who are open to new experiences and are accepting of others. Our values support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a safe, respectful learning environment. Teaching the school's core values alongside the fundamental British values supports quality teaching and learning whilst making a positive contribution to the development of a fair, just and civil society. Through our curriculum we actively aim to promote principles that:

- Enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- Enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of Britain

- Encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality in which the school is situated
- Enable pupils to acquire a knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation and respect for their own culture
- Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process
- Elect class representatives for the school council and have regular meetings to allow a 'student voice'
- Involve children in the staff recruitment process
- Conduct debates in class to encourage free speech and allow children to consider alternative views

The Rule of Law

- Have a clear, consistent behaviour policy
- Provide opportunities for children to reflect about positive and negative behaviour
- Offer time and support to individuals who require additional opportunities to understand the importance of following rules
- Encourage visits from outside agencies to talk to the children in school

Individual Liberty

- Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school in the knowledge that they are in a safe and supportive environment
- Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely
- Justice and fairness are key principles within our school
- Pupils are taught how to stay safe and how to act safely
- All pupils are taken seriously by staff when they ask a question or raise a concern

Mutual Respect

Respect and responsibility are key values which permeate all aspects of school life. They determine the way in which we support and care for each other, for the community and for the environment.

- At the PRU children learn respect through:
 - The promotion of positive relationships
 - The modelling of positive relationships by all adults working in school
 - The PSHE curriculum which teaches that behaviour has an effect on those around them and upon their own rights
 - The work of the school council
 - The positive reward system developed to promote respect
 - Welcoming new students that join the school

Tolerance of those of different Faiths and Beliefs

- Tolerance in our school is promoted through:
- The stated aims and values of our school
- The PSHE and RE curriculum
- Class discussion
- Festival study and celebration
- Work on prejudice-based bullying
- Using world events to positively reinforce life and culture in other countries
- A non-negotiable approach towards the expression of views contrary to our agreed set of values