

Promoting British Values

Wateringbury CE Primary School

Last review: February 2018

Next review date: February 2019

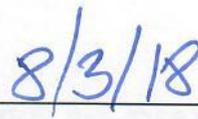
Committee responsible: Monitoring, Learning & Curriculum Committee

Signed: _____



(Chair of Governors)

Date: _____



Promoting British Values at Wateringbury CE Primary School

The Department for Education (DfE) has recently reiterated 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 are reinforced throughout our school. Wateringbury Church of England Primary School is a church school. We recognise the importance of living in an ever-changing environment and the importance of teaching our pupils mutual respect for those of different or of no faith. Our Religious Education programme follows the Rochester Diocese Agreed Syllabus and focuses on the five faiths of Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism, Islam and Judaism.

At Wateringbury, we are committed to ensuring our pupils understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain. British Values are taught explicitly through Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education and through Religious Education (RE). We also teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. In history, for instance, children learn about the Roman Empire; 1066 and the Battle of Hastings; Guy Fawkes and the conflict within the church; the Great Fire of London; and the impact of World War II on Britain.

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through daily Collective Worship and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running our Junior Governors.

Examples:

Democracy

- Each year those in Years 2-6 vote in a secret ballot to elect the Junior Governors who meet regularly with the Deputy Headteacher to discuss issues raised in class and on the playground and to plan projects aimed at improving the school. Adult governors sometimes attend meetings and occasionally invite the Junior Governors to present proposals and ideas to the Full Governing Body. They follow an Agenda modelled on the Full Governing Body Agenda and even start their meetings with a prayer, just as the adult governors do.
- Year 5 and 6 pupils participate fortnightly in Votes for Schools, a national initiative, where a topical question is emailed to the school with some factual information and the children all vote on the question. The national results are explored and compared to the class results.



- Each year our Year 6s visit the House of Commons and the House of Lords to learn how the British Government works.
- The principle of democracy is explored in the curriculum as well as during assemblies and special days. We enjoy regular visits from our MP, local Mayor and County Councillor.



Four of our Year 6s took part in the Mayoral Primary Debate, led by Cllr Roger Dalton, in the Council Chamber at Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

Our MP, Tom Tugendhat MBE, was one of the first to congratulate our school on receiving our 'Good' rating from Ofsted in November 2017



- All children are encouraged to debate topics of interest, express their views and make a meaningful contribution to the running of the school on matters that directly involve pupils. Children also have the opportunity to have their voices heard through pupil questionnaires and a children's newsletter which has been set up by Year 6 pupils. Some of our Year 6 pupils took part in a two-hour Mayoral Primary Debate, organised by the Mayor of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Cllr Roger Dalton. The debate involved 50 pupils from 10 schools and focused on two topics: Should children be allowed to use the internet unsupervised and should unhealthy snacks be banned from school?
- We encourage children to apply for positions of responsibility including House Captains, Digital Leaders, Corridor Monitors, Play Leaders and Leading Lights (who help set up and lead worship).

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws - whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country - are consistently reinforced throughout the school day when dealing with behaviour and discussions take place in class and during school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reason behind the laws that govern and protect us, the responsibility that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Pupils are encouraged to respect the law and Wateringbury enjoys visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service to

help reinforce this message. At the start of each school year, all pupils sign a Home-School Agreement which sets out the expectations of children, parents and staff members and ensures the children understand what constitutes good behaviour and how good behaviour contributes to a whole school ethos.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to become good and valued citizens. We do this by supporting each pupil to become as independent as possible. We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights and encourage pupils to take responsibility for particular roles, both within and outside school, and to understand that with certain rights comes a level of responsibility. Within school, pupils are actively encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.

- Pupils are supported to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and our pastoral support reinforces the importance of making the right choices.
- 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 teaching and PSHE lessons. We also celebrate Safer Internet Day
- Vulnerable pupils are protected and stereotypes challenged. A strong anti-bullying culture is embedded in the school and any form of bullying is challenged and addressed.
- Pupils have key roles and responsibilities in school eg Junior Governors, House Captains, Digital Leaders, Play Leaders.
- Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, for example signing up for extra-curricular clubs.



We support others by participating in charitable events both locally and within the wider world community such as Children in Need, Red Nose Day/Comic Relief, Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning, Christian Aid Week, Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and others throughout the school year. Children are encouraged to organise their own fundraising initiatives as well and hold termly sales and stalls to raise money for their own selected charity.

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of all our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and the rights of others. All members of the school community are expected to treat each other with respect. Staff are expected to be good role models at all times.

Our school sits at the heart of our local community and we facilitate opportunities for Wateringbury Primary School to engage with the wider community through events, fayres and festivals and through shared participation with other schools through



Fair Play Champions

sporting tournaments, musical events and academic competitions. Our local environment is important to us too and every September the whole school goes on a 3-mile Wateringbury Walk, along the riverbank and local fields.

As a school, we take part in local sporting activities and other events which help to instil 'sportsmanship' 'fair play' and a 'team spirit'. Wateringbury Primary School's rugby team were crowned the Kent Fair Play Champions 2015. We also take part in events such as Tonbridge Schools' Swimming Gala, Kwik Cricket Tournaments, Primary Speaks, Primary Literacy and Primary Mathematics Competitions at secondary schools, chess tournaments, the RHS School Gardening Competition at Wisley and the Hampton Court Scarecrow Competition as part of the garden show.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Each person in our school is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race and we celebrate and embrace other faiths and world events. This cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum and we place great emphasis on providing encounters and participation in events and celebrations to broaden all pupils' experiences and awareness of others. We also use opportunities like the World Cup and Olympic Games to study and learn about life and culture in other countries.

Our Assemblies help all pupils to find out about themselves and others linking their lives to the communities in which they belong. The themes covered link to our school values of Love, Peace, Wisdom, Forgiveness, Compassion and Justice, which inform all we do together – both in the classroom, around school and beyond the school gates.

We have also developed links with a Syrian refugee link school in northern Lebanon (Tuyoor Al-Amal School – Birds of Hope). This has involved fundraising and email communication between pupils.



Pupils from Tuyoor Al-Amal School say thank you to Wateringbury Primary School children for their donation which provided transport to school for some of the poorest children, plus a school outing for an entire class.

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 celebrating Royal events (Queen's 90th birthday), Remembrance Day (selling poppies, Remembrance Service), St George's Day and festivals such as Harvest, Christmas, Easter (alongside those from other cultures such as Diwali and Chinese New Year, for example). In 2017 the school also held its first Bonfire Night event, organised by the Friends of Wateringbury Primary School. We visit the local church throughout the year to mark special events. Some pupils have also attended Rochester Cathedral to learn about weddings and baptisms.



The school holds an annual St George's Day outdoor flagpole service where the legend of St George is retold each year and the link between St George and the Scouts is made clear. We are proud of our links with the Scouts and the school is regularly used by the Scouts for events and overnights.

PREVENT duty

Schools have a relatively new statutory duty to pay "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". The Prevent duty is clear that extremism of all kinds, whether Islamic extremism or far right groups, must be tackled.

All of our staff have been trained in the Prevent duty and must have due regard to preventing people being drawn into terrorism. Staff should be able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. We can help to build children's resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist views. *See also our Safeguarding Policy.*