Hasland Infant and Nursery School

British Values Policy

At Hasland Infant and Nursery School, we are committed to promoting the fundamental British Values of:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect and Tolerance

These values are actively promoted through our curriculum, school ethos, daily interactions and wider opportunities. They are explored explicitly through assemblies, PSHE and RE lessons, while also being embedded throughout school life. We aim to nurture kind, respectful and responsible children who make positive contributions to their school and wider community. We encourage children to value and celebrate differences, develop positive relationships and understand how they can help make the world around them a better place, helping them to become kind, respectful and responsible members of society who are well prepared for life in modern Britain.

Intent

We believe every child should feel valued, respected and empowered to make a positive contribution to society. We provide a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment where children develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to become confident, responsible citizens with a strong sense of belonging and an understanding of their role in modern Britain.

Through the promotion of British Values, we intend for our children to:

- Develop an understanding of right and wrong.
- Learn the importance of fairness, equality and respect.
- Recognise that everyone has rights and responsibilities.
- Understand that their voice matters and that they can make choices.
- Appreciate and celebrate diversity within our school, local community and wider world.
- Build positive relationships with others regardless of background, culture, faith or belief.
- Develop resilience, independence and confidence.
- Become active participants in school life and their communities.

Through practical experiences, stories, play, discussion and adult modelling, children develop an understanding of these values and begin to recognise how they can demonstrate them in their relationships, learning and wider school community.

Implementation

British Values are embedded throughout the life of the school and are taught both explicitly and implicitly through our curriculum and daily practice.

Democracy

We encourage children to share their views and understand that their opinions are valued. Children, parents and staff have a range of opportunities to contribute to school life and have their voices heard.

One way in which we promote democracy is through our School Council. Children who wish to become class representatives are given the opportunity to explain why they would be a good candidate before their classmates take part in a democratic vote. Elected representatives meet regularly to discuss items on the agenda and share feedback from their classes. Through this process, children learn the importance of listening to others, expressing their views respectfully and understanding that decisions can be made through voting and collective agreement.

Children are encouraged to exercise their democratic right in many ways, including:

- Class discussions and circle time.
- Voting for class representatives such as School Council, i-Venger and Global Guardian.
- Voting for a book each day at the class Voting Station.
- Attending or contributing to school Council meetings.
- Taking turns and listening to others' viewpoints during whole class discussions and through the use of talk partners.
- Providing opportunities for children to make choices throughout the school day.
- Encouraging children to contribute ideas for the school environment and wider school life

Rule of Law

Our school values are reflected through our SMILE expectations, which underpin all aspects of school life. Children learn the importance of following these expectations and understand that when everyone demonstrates them, our school remains a happy, safe and successful place where we can all SMILE. Opportunities to discuss and reflect upon these expectations are embedded throughout lessons, assemblies and everyday interactions.

We have a child-friendly behaviour policy, which is displayed in all classrooms and regularly shared with children. This helps them to understand the rewards and consequences associated with different behaviours and supports them in making positive choices. Through this approach, children

learn that rules help to keep everyone safe, promote fairness and enable all members of the school community to learn and thrive.

Where possible, we enhance children's understanding of the Rule of Law through visits from members of the wider community, such as police officers, firefighters and road safety teams. These experiences help children to recognise the important role that rules and laws play in keeping people safe and supporting communities to work together effectively.

Individual Liberty

Children are encouraged to make informed choices and develop independence in many aspects of school life. For example, children are given choices at lunchtime and are encouraged to make decisions about their learning and play throughout the school day.

Our classrooms provide a rich learning environment with opportunities for child-initiated learning through continuous provision. This enables children to follow their interests, make choices, express their ideas and develop increasing independence as learners.

The ethos of our school supports children to take safe risks, challenge themselves and develop resilience. Through positive relationships and a nurturing environment, children are encouraged to build confidence, develop self-esteem and take responsibility for their learning and everyday routines. In doing so, they learn that they have the freedom to make choices, whilst understanding the importance of respecting the rights and choices of others.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Our SMILE expectation, 'Everyone Matters', reflects our commitment to treating everyone with respect and kindness. Adults consistently model kind, caring and respectful behaviour towards both children and one another, building positive relationships based on trust, mutual respect and understanding. Children are encouraged to show kindness, consideration and respect in all aspects of school life, and these positive behaviours are recognised through verbal praise, kindness hearts and team points.

Through PSHE lessons and everyday interactions, children learn how to resolve disagreements respectfully and develop positive relationships with others. Opportunities for collaborative learning are carefully planned, enabling children to work together, share ideas and listen to different viewpoints. Every child has a talk partner, helping them to develop communication skills and respect for the opinions of others.

Children develop an understanding and appreciation of diversity within Britain and the wider world throughout their time at Hasland Infant and Nursery School. Through Religious Education, PSHE and high-quality texts, children learn about different beliefs, cultures, families, traditions and celebrations. They explore both similarities and differences between people and are encouraged to value and celebrate diversity. Where appropriate, visitors from different backgrounds enrich children's understanding of the wider world and help prepare them for life in modern Britain.

Curriculum Links

British Values are promoted across all areas of learning, including:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)
- Understanding the World
- Religious Education (RE)
- Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)
- Relationships and Health Education (RHE)
- Literacy, through stories and discussion
- Assemblies
- Educational visits and visitors

All staff have a responsibility to promote British Values through their interactions, language and expectations.

Impact

The impact of our British Values provision is demonstrated through children who:

- Feel safe, valued and included.
- Show kindness, respect and empathy towards others.
- Understand the importance of expectations and routines.
- Can express their views confidently and respectfully.
- Make positive choices and show increasing independence.
- Celebrate and value differences between people.
- Demonstrate positive attitudes towards learning and relationships.
- Understand their rights and responsibilities within school and beyond.
- Contribute positively to the school community.

The effectiveness of our provision is monitored through:

- Pupil voice activities.
- Learning walks and classroom observations.
- Monitoring of floor books in PSHE & RHE.
- Behaviour records.
- Participation in school events and responsibilities.
- Feedback from pupils, staff, parents and governors.

Through the successful promotion of British Values, our children leave our school as respectful, caring and responsible individuals who are prepared for the next stage of their education and life in modern Britain.