

Leverton Church of England
Academy



British Values Policy

Statement

September 2015

British Values

The Department for Education have 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 the definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister. At Leverton Church of England Academy these values are reinforced regularly in the following ways:

Democracy

At Leverton Church of England Academy democracy is taken very seriously. Children are actively encouraged to have a voice and share their views and opinions regularly. Our active school council is one such example. In September the Academy will hold an election week when the candidates for class representatives on the school council present their election manifesto to the rest of the class. A secret ballot is used for voting and the results announced in a special assembly. The school council representatives (2 from each class from Reception to Year 6) then meet on a regular basis to discuss ideas, projects etc. and feedback to their class.

Every child contributes to their ideas to the composition of their own class charter every year. This sets grounds for rules for classroom conduct and establishes the standards of behaviour children can expect from the year ahead.

All children complete an annual pupil questionnaire which provides them with the opportunity to share their views of learning at Leverton Church of England Academy and suggest ways in which the school could be improved further. In addition to this, they also complete sports questionnaires to further gain their views on the provision in these areas of the curriculum and offer ideas for improvement.

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, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Children are taught the value and reason behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Our school rules, rewards and sanctions which are displayed in all classrooms, referred to regularly and consistently upheld are a practical example of this.

Visits from authorities such as the Police and the Fire Service help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Within school, children are actively encouraged to make decisions, choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. At school we educate and provide boundaries for young children to take risks and make choices safely. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PHSE lessons. Whether it be through choice of learning challenge, how they record their learning,

participation in one of our extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, children are given the freedom to make choices and make decisions.

Mutual Respect

As a Church of England School, mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their rights and those of others. All members of the school community are treated with respect.

Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths & Beliefs

Leverton Church of England Academy is situated in an area which is not culturally diverse, therefore we place a great emphasis on promoting diversity with children. Assemblies are regularly planned to address issues either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. Our RE and PHSE teaching reinforces this. Each year the children explore a world faith alongside their learning about Christianity. By the time they leave us all children have learnt about beliefs and practices of people following the world faiths; Judaism, Sikhism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.