



# Devonshire Primary Academy British Values Statement



Review period: 1 Year  
Last review date: January 2019  
Person responsible for policy: N Dean

## **Devonshire Primary Academy**

### **Promoting Fundamental British Values**

At Devonshire Primary Academy we uphold and teach pupils about British Values. The DfE have recently 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 its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated this year (2014).

#### **Democracy**

Democracy is embedded within the school. Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Each year the children decide upon their class rules and the rights associated with these. All the children contribute to the drawing up of the rules. We have a student council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class council meetings. The council is able to negotiate a budget with the Headteacher and is genuinely able to effect change within the school. Every child on the student council is voted in by their class. Elections are carried out and children are voted in by members of their class. Children have an annual questionnaire where they are able to put forward their views about the school and discuss. Elections are also held each year to identify the head boy and head girl. These elections take place within Year 6.

#### **The Rule of Law**

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Devonshire. Pupils are taught from an early age the rules of the school and together the children have created their own school promises in which they follow. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message.

To encourage and promote good behaviour, attitude and work, we have devised a reward system which is consistently followed throughout the school. We are committed to praising children's efforts and endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school. Children are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas, but for behaviour and general attitudes. These are awarded in Star of the Week Assemblies. Rewards are given in the form of stickers and certificates. Children's achievements are also recognised during Celebration Assemblies and parents are invited to attend, for example Year 6 end of year prize giving.

## **Individual Liberty**

At Devonshire, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through eSafety, PSHE lessons, Assemblies and lessons.

## **Mutual Respect**

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. Through PSHE sessions, assemblies and classroom discussions children have begun to relate what the word 'Respect' means and how this is shown. All members of the school community treat each other with respect and this is regularly reinforced. Displays around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our Behaviour Policy

## **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs**

Devonshire Primary Academy is a diverse school. We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. This is achieved through enhancing children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Religious Education lessons, PHSE lessons and assemblies led by the SLT and Blackpool Schools Youth Workers, reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Members of different faiths or religions and those who speak languages other than English are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. The children visit places of worship that are important to different faiths, these include the local church, Mosque, Hindu temple and Synagogue.