



# Charlton-on-Otmoor CE Primary School



## British Values

The government set out their definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. Due to recent events, these were reinforced in September 2014. These new regulations will sit alongside the requirements of the Equalities Act, which also applies to all types of school.

Schools are expected to focus on, and be able to show, how our work with pupils is effective in embedding fundamental British values.

### **Promoting British values**

We agree with the Department for Education's five-part definition of British values:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Pupils at Charlton-on-Otmoor will encounter these principles throughout everyday school life. In particular, our promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding has been reviewed and enhanced by these explicit values.

Listed below are some examples of how we promote these values in our school community:

### **Democracy**

Pupil voice is significant in regards to life at Charlton-on-Otmoor. Our School Council plays a strong role in our school. Pupils have a great amount of input in regards to what and how they learn, which promotes pupil voice.

Consultations with pupils are also conducted throughout the year. We know that the formation of the school council and the active participation of our pupils will sow the seeds for a more sophisticated understanding of democracy in the future.

### **The Rule of Law**

Our pupils will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. We want our pupils to understand that whether these laws govern the class, the school, the neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to.

This understanding of the importance of rules will be consistently reinforced through Assemblies, Church Assemblies and our curriculum. The involvement of our pupils in the selection of school council representatives helps them to understand the reasons behind the rules and the consequences if they are broken. Throughout the year we welcome visits from members of the wider community. We believe that clear explanations and real life stories emphasise the importance of the rule of law for our pupils.

### **Individual Liberty**

We invest a great deal of time in creating a positive culture in our school, so that children are in a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged. In lessons, learning tasks are often left for the child to decide upon. We encourage children to choose the task that will challenge them, giving them more freedom to determine their own learning. We believe that valuing choice and freedom in daily school life will foster a value for individual liberty as the children embark upon their adult lives.

### **Mutual respect**

Mutual respect is at the core of our school life. Pupils learn to treat each other and staff with great respect. This is evident when walking around the school and in the classrooms.

### **Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

We offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected. We strongly believe that tolerance is gained through knowledge and understanding. Through our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain for the future.

**Approved by:** Jo Stocks/ Emma Wykes

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