

Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in school policy

September 2025

The Garibaldi Family of Schools















British Values at Newlands Junior School.

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 in 2014.

At Newlands Junior School, our aim is to build an environment where all learners take pride in themselves, their school and their community. They should have respect for each other and achieve well. We maximise every opportunity to promote British Values in everything we do for all of our learners, regardless of their background. Our aims support all to develop as well rounded citizens.

Student Voice activities are undertaken to ensure that all learners exercise their democratic rights and feel part of big decisions within the school (e.g. School Council). By ensuring that behaviour expectations are clear within the consequences system, we aim to ensure that all learners respect and uphold the rules. This is done so that our children can see the difference between right and wrong.

Children are given the opportunity and freedom to be individual in their work. The freedom to be independent in their work gives our students ownership and allows them reflection time which will be a valuable skill for their future. Our Citizenship curriculum is designed to develop reflection; our learners consider how their behaviours can affect the wider society.

Newlands Junior School actively promotes the tolerance of different faiths and beliefs whilst challenging those who express opinions that conflict with British Values.

Radicalisation and Extremism

Newlands Junior School believes and actively supports the view that all students should be protected from radicalisation and extremism. Our approach to this is in line with the Government's CONTEST (the counter terrorist strategy) and PREVENT (stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism) strategies.

Radicalisation is the process by which people come to support terrorism and extremism, and in some, cases participate in terrorist groups. Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values.

Our 100% commitment to safeguarding student welfare means we are vigilant to monitoring vulnerability to radicalisation including:

- Family tensions
- Sense of isolation
- Migration
- Distance from cultural heritage
- Experience of racism or discrimination
- Feeling of failure

British Values	How Demonstrated	Evidence
Democracy	 Promoting the importance to listening to all views Debate arguments for and against Getting involved and interacting with others Being able to express views in a peaceful manner Vote and respect the result of the majority 	 Classroom discussions Social times Assemblies and Mentor Time Peer feedback / assessment Communication of views in lessons Content in: History Geography RE PE English Citizenship
Rule of Law	 Making sure that rules and expectations are clear 	 Consequence system Police support for laws broken on site

	 Knowing the difference between right and wrong Understand that rules help and protect Respect the rules 	 Application of the behaviour policy Assemblies and Mentor time Content in: History Geography RE PE English Citizenship
Individual Liberty	 learners taking responsibility for their own behaviour Challenging stereotypes and bias Being an antibullying school The promotion of independent learning, selfesteem and self confidence 	 Attitudes to learning system Consequences system Behaviour Policy Random acts of Kindness Content in: History Geography RE PE English Citizenship
Respect & Tolerance	 Promoting respect in and around the school Having respect for our own and other cultures The ability to celebrate differences in faith, ethnicity, disability gender and families 	 School aims & objectives Theme days/weeks Assemblies and Mentor Time Participation in PE and extracurricular activities Content in: History Geography RE PE English Citizenship

Our schools meet the requirements set out in section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of our pupils. Through ensuring pupils' SMSC development, we actively promote fundamental British values.

- We establish a strong school ethos supported by effective relationships throughout the school.
- We provide relevant activities beyond the classroom to ensure pupils' SMSC development.
- All Pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.
- Our pupils understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law. Our school's ethos and teaching, support the rule of English civil and criminal law.

Fundamental British values

Our schools promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and belief.

Through our provision of SMSC, we:

- enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely;
- enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- encourage respect for other people; and
- encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

Outcomes & Impact

Through promoting fundamental British values, our children foster;

- an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process;
- an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety;
- •an understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence;
- an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law;
- an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour; and
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

Within our school we;

- include in suitable parts of the curriculum, as appropriate for the age of pupils, material on the strengths, advantages and disadvantages of democracy, and how democracy and the law works in Britain, in contrast to other forms of government in other countries;
- ensure that all pupils within the school have a voice that is listened to, and demonstrate how democracy works by actively promoting democratic processes such as a school council whose members are voted for by the pupils;
- use opportunities hold mock elections to promote fundamental British values and provide pupils with the opportunity to learn how to argue and defend points of view;
- use teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help pupils understand a range of faiths, and
- consider the role of extra-curricular activity, including any run directly by pupils, in promoting fundamental British values.

Adaptive Teaching

The National Curriculum provides a broad and balanced education for all children. Throughout all teaching and learning at Newlands, we provide opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress. We do this by setting suitable challenges and responding to each child's individual needs, as well as choosing activities to suit each year group and lesson. Teaching is adapted to meet the needs of all pupils. Appropriate support, whether adult support or the use of manipulatives or other extra learning resources, is given to any child that needs it to move their learning forwards.

