



British Values Policy

Legal framework

This policy will have consideration for the following guidance:

- Ofsted, School Inspection Handbook.
- DfE, Improving the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of pupils, 2013.

This policy is carried out in conjunction with our following other policies:

- Whole School Behaviour Policy

Roles and responsibilities

Distington Community School understands the importance of promoting British values through a comprehensive and unprejudiced curriculum.

The Head teacher will ensure that all teachers and staff are aware of the requirement to uphold British values through the methods outlined in this policy, and will ensure that the appropriate procedures are in place to carry out these methods.

Teachers and support staff will ensure that their lessons are inclusive of, and sensitive to, the fundamental British values.

Pupils are expected to treat each other and staff with respect, in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.

Democracy

At Distington Community School pupils have numerous opportunities to have their views heard through pupil questionnaires and the pupil-elected school council.

Our pupils are encouraged to have an input into what and how they learn to instil an understanding of democracy for their future.

The rule of law

Distington Community School has a high regard for the laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Our pupils are involved in the creation of school rules to inspire them with this understanding.

At Distington Community School pupils are taught these values and the reasons behind laws, whether they govern the class, the school or the country, that are essential for their well-being and safety. Pupils are allowed healthy debate in class on the matter to encourage recognition of the importance of the law.

Distington Community School organises visits from authorities throughout the academic year in an effort to reinforce the reality and importance of this message.

Individual liberty

At Distington Community School we foster a safe and supportive environment where pupils are actively encouraged to make choices. Whether it is choosing a challenging task or an extra-curricular club, pupils have the freedom to base their choices on their interests.

Pupils are taught about their rights and personal freedoms and are encouraged and advised on how to exercise these safely, for instance through our teaching on e-safety and PSHE lessons.

Mutual respect

Respect forms a core pillar of Distington Community School's ethos. Pupils are treated with respect and learn to treat each other and staff with respect.

This is reinforced through our Behaviour Policy and posters throughout the school promoting mutual respect.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Distington Community School acknowledges that tolerance is achieved through pupils' knowledge and understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and the opportunity for pupils to experience such diversity.

Throughout the year, assemblies are held focusing on bullying, with reference to prejudice based bullying, and discussion is encouraged.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs is supported by the RE and PSHE curriculum.

We encourage our pupils from different faiths or religions to share their knowledge with their peers to enhance their learning.

Staff training

At Distington Community School staff are made aware of their responsibilities in terms of British values during their thorough human resources induction.

Staff will be offered the opportunity for further training on upholding the British Values Policy.

Review

This policy will be kept under regular review and amended as appropriate to reflect any changes to regulations.