The Griffin Federation
Learning Together for Excellence

British Values Policy
September 2022

The DfE 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 its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated in 2014. At Our Schools these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy
We have a school council in Key Stage 1 & 2 which meets regularly. The aim of the meetings are to seek the children's views and opinions on a range of school issues. The members of school council feed back to their class and sometimes they collect class views which they represent at the meeting. The council is able to effect change within the school. Every child on the school council is elected though a fair and democratic voting system by their class. Children are interviewed on a variety of areas during the school year and invited to share their opinions. Through our curriculum children are taught about and encouraged to respect public institutions and services. We do this by inviting into school a range of visitors from the local community as well as visiting places in the area. Older children follow the local and world news to learn about elections.

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 Our Schools. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service help reinforce this message. Children are taught from an early age the rules of the school. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind our school rules, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when rules are broken.

Individual Liberty

At Our Schools, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As schools 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 our eSafety and PSHE work. We have a robust anti-bullying culture with behaviour and safety policies in place.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs.

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. All members of the school community treat each other with respect. We provide opportunities for the children to visit places of worship and we actively encourage visitors from a range of communities and organisations into school.

Policy into Practice

Through activities such as Bike-ability cycle training, children learn to abide by rules outside of school. Our weekly reward assemblies reward good behaviour and abiding by rules. We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures, especially through our Japanese language lessons, RE lessons throughout promoting knowledge and understanding of different religions around the world and assemblies celebrating different religious festivals. The school supports a variety of charities each year and plans fundraising and awareness raising activities to support those charities.