



Promoting British Values

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The Government set out an initial definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent strategy, and supplemented this with additional guidance in 2014. In the guidance, Lord Nash stated: 'We want every school to promote the basic British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.'

At E-ACT Pathways Academy we value the diverse ethnic backgrounds of all pupils and families and undertake a variety of events and lessons to celebrate these. We have found this approach to be enriching for all parties as it teaches tolerance and respect for the differences in our community and the wider world.

This document sets out how we, at E-ACT Pathways Academy, develop and promote British Values throughout our Academy and within our curriculum.



Democracy

Children, parents and staff have many opportunities for their voices to be heard in our Academy. Democracy is central to how our academy operates.

Through weekly circle times and PSHCE children are listened to and are taught to listen carefully to others. During these sessions children are taught to respect the right of individuals to have their voices and opinions heard. They are taught to discuss issues in a balanced and calm way.

Children are able to access a wide range of listening systems to ensure their opinions and view points are heard such as the class question box and Learning Mentor sessions.

On a daily basis the children work within the school golden rules to ensure that democracy runs through the school. The children have a deep understanding of these rules right from entry to Nursery and they are linked to the life rules needed to ensure everyone can live, work and play harmoniously alongside each other.

Children engage in the democratic process in selecting representatives for the Academy council. The school council meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class or as a whole school, each council member is voted for by their own class. They are encouraged to engage actively in the decision making processes in the Academy for example: the selection process of new staff and the choice of Golden Time activities. Children are also encouraged to take ownership of their academy and their own learning and progress through their behavior and general conduct. This helps to create a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility which is in evidence on a daily basis within our Academy.

Parents are always welcome in the Academy. Regular Open Evenings, assemblies and curriculum events enable our parents and carers to express their opinions to our teachers and senior leaders. Parent Governors play a key role in supporting and challenging the leadership and management of the Academy through the meetings of the Full Governing Body, its link sub-groups and its regular monitoring and review schedule. There is also an active Parent Forum Group that meets on a scheduled basis and enables concerns to be raised as well as parent views to be gained on any new initiatives. Monitoring carried out by Governors and Staff always involves talking to children about their views and opinions.

The Rule of Law

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the academy, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Pathways Academy. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind 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, Fire Service, Governors. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

We have high expectations of pupil behaviour in the Academy and these are reflected in our Behaviour Policy and Golden Rules.



Individual Liberty

At Pathways Academy, children are actively encouraged to make choices and express their views and beliefs in a manner respectful to others. We promote this by having a safe and supportive environment and providing boundaries for children to enable them to make informed decisions. Children are expected to take responsibility for their own actions and to understand the consequences their actions might have. Our children are taught how to be aware of, understand and exercise their rights, and personal freedom, safely through the PSHCE curriculum, acts of collective worship, circle time and e-safety.

Mutual respect

Mutual respect is at the core value of all our values at Pathways Academy. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. We expect all members of the Academy community: teachers, non-teaching staff, pupils, governors and parents to treat one another with respect and model behavior and attitudes that reflect the Academy's mutually supportive values.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

In recent years the intake at Pathways Academy has become significantly more diverse. We are justifiably proud of the range of different ethnicities, cultures and beliefs represented in the Academy. Through our assemblies and curriculum we seek to enhance children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and we recognize our role in preparing children for life in modern Britain. Issues around prejudice based bullying are tackled in the RE (the agreed Sheffield syllabus) and PSHE areas of the curriculum. Through these subjects we reinforce messages of tolerance and respect.

The curriculum

Our curriculum is under regular review to ensure it is meeting the needs of our young people and the challenges they face in life in modern Britain. It also ensures that pupils are taught about key events and figures in history. Events during the year celebrate culturally diverse occasions and memorable events taking place in the country. We constantly look for opportunities in our curriculum and Academy day to promote and reinforce all of the above areas.

At E-ACT Pathways Academy we will actively challenge children, staff or parents who express opinions that are contrary to fundamental British values including extremists views.