



Holbeach Bank Academy British Values Policy

British Values in Holbeach Bank Academy

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 by the Prime Minister.

Although all the fundamental British values outlined by the Department of Education are already part of the academy through everyday academy life, the curriculum, Academy Council and the involvement with visitors in the community, we seek to further make these values more explicit to our pupils.

At Holbeach Bank Academy, British values are promoted in a range of ways, some of which are outlined here:

Democracy:

Democracy is in all aspects of our academy. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Academy Council and Pupil discussion gathering their views. The elections of council members are based solely on pupil votes. These council members are then recognised as the collective Academy Council headed by key members of staff. They are also identified as Lincoln Ambassadors, as coined by the trust.

In addition, our academy behaviour policy praises and rewards community and academy behaviour. We use Pupil voice as a tool for academy improvement, asking the council where funds (such as from recycling crisp packets) should be spent. Next steps are for pupil questionnaires to be offered to pupils and then used by curriculum leader teams to priorities actions and to evaluate the success/impact of change.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that ensure a class works together, the academy, or our country, are consistently reinforced throughout our days in school, when managing behaviour and through academy assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws; that they govern and protect us. They are also taught the responsibilities that this involves. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service are planned in as part of our calendar. These help to reinforce this important message.

Pupils’ modelling behaviour consistent with the academy’s high expectations are recognised and used as role models to others. Reflection time provides time for pupils to talk through their behaviour choices, reflect and discuss ways they may use to resolve the situation. Teachers, learning mentors and support assistants support and guide this in and around the academy joining pupils during outside play to support and help them.

Assemblies and our RSE and Health Education curriculum offer pupils opportunities to develop an understanding of law appropriate to their age. Pupils explore a safe way of



exploring the 'breaking' of laws and an opportunity to discuss consequences when this occurs. Pupils are taught explicitly that laws keep us safe and our curriculum alongside our Garden room enables pupils the opportunity to recognise when they do and do not feel safe. We arrange visitors from external agencies such as the Fire service, Health professionals and 'People who help us'. These reinforce understanding of the responsibilities held by various professionals.

Individual Liberty:

Within Holbeach Bank Academy, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We aim to educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely. This is nurtured through our Jigsaw programme.

Our pupils know they can visit the Pastoral Team when they feel they need to discuss issues there is a key adult that they can talk to when they need it. Time and care is taken to know each child as an individual and weekly mindfulness and Jigsaw sessions give children a chance to share their feelings and options in a safe way. Opportunities for children to take on more responsibility within the academy is encouraged. UKS2 pupils support the academy office each day. Older pupils also support during the lunchtimes on the playground and in the lunch hall. Year 6 Sports Mentors also support running lunchtime clubs for pupils'. Next steps are to support running activities during playtimes. We also intend to build in further democracy at the end of the year with current Year six interviewing their peers for taking over these jobs to ensure a fair process. In addition, we offer responsibility for academy animals at Holbeach Primary Academy.

Our pupils are valued for their differences. The variety of extra-curricular opportunities enable pupils to try new things, develop new skills or practice existing ones. We take care to provide equal opportunities for different genders such as football tournaments open to boys and girls.

Mutual Respect:

Core Values are part of our academy's ethos and behaviour policy. This includes for example 'Respect', and pupils have been part of an assembly and taken part in discussions regarding what this means and how we can show it. Classroom charters and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy promote this. A class charter is drawn up at the beginning of each academic year to set clear expectations of shared classroom behaviour, this is modelled and delivered through the Jigsaw programme. Any unkind behaviour is dealt with promptly through the academy behaviour policy. If necessary Parents/Carers are contacted. At the beginning of each academic year our Home/Academy agreement form is provided and signed by pupils and parent/carers.

Friendship benches in the playground provide opportunities pupils to be a friend or make new ones. Playground leaders provide opportunities for every pupil to feel valued.

Our Sporting Partnership, offers all pupils opportunities to participate in local sports network events. In this way pupils experience competitive events and have an opportunity to apply their sportsmanship skills with other pupils.



Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

Pupils are offered further opportunities to understand their place in our culturally diverse society and by providing them with opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and bullying around this have been provided and supported by learning opportunities in RE and RSE. Jigsaw have specific units to target this understanding, named 'Being Me' and 'Understanding Differences'. Visitors from different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge and experiences to enhance learning within classes and our academy. We have a range of multi-cultural resources on display and as part of our curriculum to reflect the multi-cultural society in which we live.

We learn about religions around the world and assemblies contribute to the knowledge of special occasions and pupils share with the academy information about how they celebrate these events at home. Next steps are to invite families to join together in such assemblies to share family interests and beliefs. Members of local faiths visit the academy to talk to and guide pupils in assemblies. They also come along to Academy events throughout the year.

Please find more information about this in our Religious Education Policy.