

# British Values

## Promoting British Values at Pentland Field School

The Department for Education state that there is a 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 were reiterated by the Prime Minister in 2014. At Pentland Field School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

### Democracy

Democracy is embedded at the school. Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Pupils also have the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our weekly whole school council meetings.

### The Rule of Law

The importance of laws whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced. Our school utilises the concept of 'Our Golden Rules', which are deeply embedded in our work every day. Pupils are regularly reminded to operate with the Golden Rules and they are referred to when conflicts arise. Each class also discusses and sets its own rules that are clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every class member can learn in a safe and ordered environment. Our 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.

### Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, we educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely; examples of this can be clearly seen in our E-safety and P.S.H.C.E. lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge; of how they record; of participation in our numerous extra- curricular activities; our pupils are given the freedom to make choices.



## **Mutual Respect**

Respect is one of the core values of our school. The pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have and to everything, however big or small. The core value of Respect at Pentland Field School underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom. This is also reinforced in the Golden Rule, 'We give each other time to speak'.

## **Tolerance Of Those With Different Faiths And Beliefs**

Our core values ensure tolerance of those who have different faiths and beliefs. Pentland Field School enhances pupils understanding of different faiths and beliefs through assemblies; P.S.H.C.E work; participate in celebrations such as Black History Month, Diwali and Chinese New Year; welcoming visitors from other schools that are not predominately white British and enjoying a depth of study during themed weeks. Beliefs, traditions and customs will be studied in depth, with visitors being invited in to our school to enrich and extend understanding. Through this our pupils gain an enhanced understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society.

**Written: November 2014**

**1<sup>st</sup> reviewed: October 2017**

**Next review: October 2020**