

STANTON HARCOURT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY FOR PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES



The Primary National Curriculum reinforces 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.’

INTRODUCTION

All maintained schools have a duty to ‘actively 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. At Stanton Harcourt Primary School, we promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of our pupils and through this demonstrate our commitment to fostering fundamental British values.

Meeting requirements for collective worship, establishing a strong school ethos supported by effective relationships throughout the school, and providing relevant activities beyond the classroom are all ways we ensure pupils’ SMSC development. Pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance.

It is expected that pupils should understand that while different people may hold different views about what is ‘right’ and ‘wrong, all people living in England are subject to its law. The school’s ethos, curriculum and teaching support the rule of English Civil and Criminal law.

OUR VISION

At Stanton Harcourt CE Primary School, we are a small school with a big heart – we are fair, respectful and we care about everyone in all our communities and work together to live up to our motto-

CARE RESPECT EQUALITY ACHIEVEMENT TRUST EXCELLENCE

OUR ETHOS

Stanton Harcourt CE Primary School serves its community by working in partnership to provide an education within the context of Christian belief and practice, and understanding of shared values. As a school we celebrate the diversity of the wider community and are committed to the principles of inclusion and equality of opportunity.

OUR VALUES

Values are fundamental expressions of what we think and believe. As a school we encourage children to think about personal and social values, to become aware of, and involved in the life and concerns of their community and society and so develop their capacity to be active and effective future citizens.

FUNDAMENTAL BRITISH VALUES

As a school we 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.

Actively promoting the values means challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to fundamental British values. As a school we recognise attempts to promote systems that undermine fundamental British values would be completely at odds with the school's duty to provide SMSC. The Teachers' Standards expect teachers to uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school. This includes not undermining fundamental British values.

Through our provision of SMSC, we enable and encourage pupils to:

- Develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self confidence
- Distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England
- Accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely
- Acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England
- Show tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling them to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures
- Respect other people
- Show respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic processes, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England.

The list below describes the understanding and knowledge expected of pupils as a result of promoting fundamental British values:

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision making through the democratic process
- An appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety
- An understanding that there is a separation of power between the executive and the judiciary, and that while some public bodies such as the police and the army can be held to account through Parliament, others such as the courts maintain independence
- An understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- An acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour

- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination

There is no expectation for staff to 'promote' teachings, beliefs or opinions that conflict with their own, but nor is it considered acceptable for them to promote discrimination against people or groups on the basis of their belief, opinion or background.

DEMOCRACY

The school has a School Council which meets regularly to discuss issues raised in class. The Council has its own class representative that has been voted by their peers and they genuinely help to support key decisions that affect change within the school.

Children have an annual questionnaire where they are able to put forward their views about the school.

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 the school. From an early age pupils are taught about the need for rules in school and the community. Children are given verbal warnings which are set against the agreed school behaviour policy and we have a consistent 'Classroom Behaviour Game' which reinforces good behaviour for learning.

Children are awarded across the school, for not only achievement in curriculum areas but for behaviour and general community contribution. We endeavour to praise the children informally, individually, during group work, in front of the whole class and the whole school.

Rewards are given in the form of 'gotchas', certificates and a special 'Head Teacher Award' for special accomplishments either academically or socially. Children's achievements, both inside and outside the school, are recognised during weekly celebration assemblies.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and 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 and Fire Service help reinforce these messages.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

At the school pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. 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. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, they also understand that with rights come responsibilities.

MUTUAL RESPECT

Part of our school ethos is based around core Christian values; these values determine how we live as a community at Stanton Harcourt CE Primary School.

TOLERANCE OF THOSE OF DIFFERENT FAITHS AND BELIEFS

At Stanton Harcourt CE Primary School tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our local community, which is by large white British. We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures during Religious Education and PS

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized initial followed by a long horizontal line.