

## Fundamental British Values Policy

This policy applies to all students at Hollygirt School, including those in the EYFS.

### Policy Statement

Fundamental British Values, outlined by the government as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance to those with different faiths and beliefs, are an essential part of the curriculum. They are covered in a variety of different ways throughout the school. At Hollygirt we 'actively promote' fundamental British values to ensure young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain.

Hollygirt School actively promotes the Department for Education's five-part definition of British values:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Fundamental British values are rooted in respect and tolerance for people of all faiths, races and cultures. Students are encouraged to develop a deeper awareness and understanding of what it means to be a good citizen in Britain today. Student voice plays an important part in driving the school forward and varying levels of school rules provide the foundation on which this can be achieved.

### Aims and objectives of this policy

- To promote democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance to those with different faiths and beliefs
- To enable students to distinguish right from wrong
- To further tolerance, harmony and mutual respect
- To enable students to develop self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- To encourage students to take responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and contribute positively to their community and society as a whole
- To promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our students
- To understand that there are democratic ways of governing and to promote respect for the basis on which law is made and applied
- To contribute positively to their community
- To value their own beliefs and the beliefs of others

### Curriculum

We aim to promote fundamental British values in a variety of different ways which are inherent to the ethos of Hollygirt School.

**Lessons:** Through our PSHE curriculum in the Junior School and the Issues programme and Conference Days in the Senior School students are taught about the rights of the individual, being a good citizen and looking after our world.

**Assemblies:** Assemblies about varying aspects of fundamental British values take place regularly. The students also engage in trips to a variety of places of worship and the school regularly raises money for a variety of charities.

Hollygirt School realises the aims and objectives above in the following ways:

## **Democracy**

- Class elections to select representative's for each class are held
- School Council/Forum ascertain the views of their peers on a range of aspects of school provision and either make decisions regarding these or put their views to the school leadership team.
- Students vote for charities the school supports
- Student and parent questionnaires are completed to gather their views and their responses inform on-going work in school
- All staff contribute to the school development plan and are actively involved in forming policy
- Our teaching and assessment procedures encourage students to take ownership of their own learning

## **The Rule of Law**

- All students are taught the reasons why rules for conduct in and out of school are important; they value and respect the school's rules to aspire to be a school prefects
- Rewards and sanctions for following the rules or choosing not to follow the rules are embedded and used consistently by all
- The school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy is upheld and promoted. Good behaviour is rewarded with merits and certificates
- Students are taught that all people living in Britain are subject to its law, irrespective of their personal views about what is right or wrong
- Students are taught to realise that different rules are applied in varying situations e.g. games lessons
- Students are given opportunities to meet with members of the wider community to develop a greater understanding of and respect for rules / law in society; e.g. visits from the police, fire and ambulance service to reinforce the message of right and wrong
- Students are also taught to understand their own behaviour, the consequences of their behaviour and the effect that this can have on others. They are taught to distinguish right from wrong

## **Individual Liberties**

- Students are given the opportunity to make choices in all aspects of their work and life in school
- Students know and respect that individuals have a right to different opinions and views

- Students show respect for the views of others and are taught how to tolerate each other by 'agreeing to disagree' knowing it is not any single viewpoint that is right or wrong
- Students are encouraged to see behaviour in terms of good and poor behaviour choices to develop responsibility for their own actions
- Students understand how to tackle and prevent bullying and are taught to seek help straight away from others in and out of school
- Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, e.g. through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons
- Students are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. lunch options, participation in extra-curricular clubs and opportunities

## **Mutual Respect**

- Students are encouraged to share and celebrate their unique identities and recognise that differences in views can be a strength, not an issue
- The school teaches an age-appropriate understanding of the problems of identifying and combatting discrimination
- Students are taught to respect and recognise others' success
- The school community is culturally diverse and multi-faith and the school's ethos is reflective of this
- Students are recognised for demonstrating respect, manners, care, responsible behaviour, helpfulness and hardworking attitudes
- Our annual mental health awareness week/events includes activities showing care, kindness and respect for others
- Regular support for charity. E.g. Remembrance Day
- Harvest Festival – donating food for the local food bank
- Students are taught about different cultures and the similarities and differences between themselves and others

We have particular regard to the Protected Characteristics as outlined in the 2010 Act, namely:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion and belief
- Sex and sexual orientation
- The school's ethos and aims are central to promoting respect, tolerance and celebrating difference.

## **Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs**

- Hollygirt School reflects our diverse community by actively promoting and teaching about different faiths
  - Similarities are explored and celebrated and value given to all major religious celebrations
  - Students are happy to learn about different faiths and have great appreciation for different religious views
  - Visits are made to places of worship for different faiths and visitors are welcomed into the school to talk about and help celebrate various aspects of different faiths, e.g. Hanukah, Diwali
  - All teaching and non-teaching staff at Hollygirt School are responsible for ensuring that all students, irrespective of ability, ethnic origin, belief and social circumstances have access to the whole curriculum and the opportunity to make the greatest progress possible in all areas of the curriculum while at our school
  - All staff have access to information and should be aware of the individual and differing needs of students, including those who are able or talented and those with physical, emotional and learning difficulties
  - Appropriate differentiation will be made to meet students' needs and the delivery of the curriculum will embrace a range of teaching and learning styles
- Furthermore, we actively promote the use of British Values in our sanctions.

**Signed off by SLT 1 November 2021 – Dr H Barsham**