



Styal Primary School



British Values Policy

January 2025

Styal School & British Values Policy

School Vision

‘Valuing the individual to believe and achieve’

CORE VALUES

- Respect
- Empathy
- Perseverance
- Honesty
- Enjoyment

We have 8 School Values that we follow and are rewarded House Points for and are the focus of our certificate assembly each Friday.

They are on display in the main entrance and on display in every classroom.



Introduction

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
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

The government set out its definitions of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

Democracy

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council. It promotes the democratic process, fosters the concept and application of freedom of speech and group action to address needs and concerns. The election of 1 child from Year 2 to Year 6 takes place at the start of the Autumn term and is organised through pupil vote.

As early as the EYFS children vote to decide on which book to read, which game to play, this continues through the years.

Each term, Our Parent Council meet who discuss a wide range of school related matters. We use the outcomes of the meeting to praise what the school is doing well and make adjustments and improvements for the children and the wider school community. Throughout the year, children take part in various pupil voices such safety, wellbeing, curriculum related subjects, online safety or on a current topic or theme.

At Styal we aim to:

- ✓ Include in the curriculum information and opportunities to learn about the parliamentary and democratic system in Britain
- ✓ Provide pupils with a broad general knowledge of, and promote respect for, British institutions (Monarchy, police, parliament, local authority, mayor, MPs, emergency services)
- ✓ Teach pupils how they can influence decision-making through the democratic process in school and ensure they are listened to (voting for school council)
- ✓ Explain the advantages and disadvantages of democracy and how it works in Britain
- ✓ Develop the children's ability to learn how to argue, present and defend their points of view (debates in literacy, discussion in literacy – hot seating, children voting; Styal's got talent)
- ✓ Help pupils to express their views in a variety of situations (talk partners, triads, chips)
- ✓ Teach the children how they can present their viewpoints
- ✓ Encourage children to sign up to after school clubs or outside sports events within the school day
- ✓

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, including those governing the individual, the class and the whole school, are consistently reinforced throughout the school year. The children understand these laws as rules. Pupils are taught the values and the reasons behind British laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. They also understand that working within the agreed rules brings its own rewards and this is demonstrated in our House Point rewards system eg half termly VIP Day, termly House Point Reward Hour and Certificate assembly which is held every Friday. At the start of each school year, teacher's work with their class to draw up age appropriate class rules that all class members agree and sign up to.

At Styal we aim to:

- ✓ Ensure that school rules and expectations are clear and fair (Behaviour consequences- red and yellow cards, house points)
- ✓ Help pupils to distinguish right from wrong (PSHE lessons, assemblies, circle time, discussions in class)
- ✓ Help pupils to understand how and where rules are made and to respect the law (school rules)
- ✓ Help pupils to understand that living under the rule of the law protects us as individuals (visits from NSPCC, and PCSO, P.E rules)

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to develop independence and make personal choices, knowing that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering them through their education. This can be seen clearly, for example, in our Forest Schools work or when taking part in Outdoor and Adventurous activities at Robinwood.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-safety lessons, Aspirations weeks, PSHE lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge or working partners, choice of how they record their work or of choice of participation in extra-curricular clubs and wider opportunities.

At Styal we aim to:

- ✓ Support pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence
- ✓ Encourage pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour, as well as knowing their rights
- ✓ Challenge stereotypes (role-play, drama, stories, discussion, displays)
- ✓ Implement a strong anti-bullying culture (Anti-bullying week)
- ✓ Give children the choice of healthy lunches, children to complete choice each morning
- ✓ Give the children freedom to speak and be heard – PSHE lessons, assemblies, circle time, show and tell
- ✓ Celebrate individual achievement at our celebration assembly on a Friday, half termly House Point VIP days and termly House Point Reward Hour.

Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Respect is one of our core values at Styal. Through class and whole school activities and discussions, pupils have a good understanding of what respect means and how it is shown. Our class and school rules and our behaviour policy thoroughly reinforce this ethos.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs is encouraged also through our ethos of respect and through enhancing pupils understanding of their place within a culturally diverse society. Within our RE curriculum we study the background and practices of a range of faiths including Christian, Hindu, Muslim and Jewish faiths. Children of different faiths are able to withdraw from participation e.g Christmas.

Discussion in RE and PSHE lessons at an age appropriate level gives pupils opportunities to consider the reasons for and the consequences of religious and racial intolerance and prejudice-based bullying.

At Styal we aim to:

- ✓ Help pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life (Visits to different religious buildings, visiting speakers – Katy Thomas, local Methodist Minister regularly comes in. Peter and Julie Fraser – bible stories,)

- ✓ Help pupils to challenge prejudice and discriminatory behaviour
- ✓ Discuss differences between people such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations (assembly themes)
- ✓ promote respect for individual differences through our annual European day of Languages (EDL)

Date of Policy: January 2025

Review of Policy: January 2027

Headteacher: Sara Chignell

Chair of Governors: Lee Walsh