British Values Statement

Hillborough Infant and Nursery School

Owned and Written by: J Walter, Headteacher	**Date:** March 2026
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This policy has been updated to reflect the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018, and it supersedes the HM Government Information Sharing Guidance for Practitioners and Managers published in March 2015.	

This statement outlines the key British values we actively promote.

Introduction

Hillborough Infant & Nursery School are committed to serving its community and surrounding areas. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith nature of the United Kingdom and understand the crucial role our school plays in promoting these values.

The Department for Education states 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 Department for Education defines British Values as follows:

- Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process
- Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- Support for equality of opportunity for all
- Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

Through our provision we:

- Enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
- Enable students to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- Encourage students to 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;
- Enable students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
- Further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures;
- Encourage respect for other people; and

- Encourage 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

- Promote an understanding of how we can influence decision-making through the democratic process;

- Encourage an appreciation that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety;

- Promote 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;

- Teach an understanding that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law;

- Encourage 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; and teach an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

Democracy

To understand how they can influence decision making through a democratic process.

We empower our pupils by giving them opportunities to make choices about the things that they believe to be important. By valuing each 'voice' and by listening and responding to that voice we demonstrate that we support democracy and liberty.

Pupils also have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and pupil questionnaires. The elections of Pupil Council Members are based solely on pupil votes.

The School Council itself is led by a member of staff and adheres to democratic processes, reporting its actions to the Local Governing Body.

The principle of democracy is also explored in the History and RE curriculum as well as in assemblies. We explore how democracy and the law works in Britain in contrast to other forms of government in other countries.

Individual Liberty

To understand that the freedom to choose is protected in law.

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.

Pupils have key roles and responsibilities in school e.g. School Council.

We educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. This is also enforced with the use of Therapeutic Thinking: Behaviour & Relationships, PSHE, RHE, and MH&WB.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons.

Whether it is through choice of challenge, of how they record, choose their lunch options, of participation in extra-curricular clubs and opportunities etc., pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

To understand that while people may hold different views, we may show respect towards them.

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy revolves around core values such as 'Respect'. Pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies related to what this means and how it is shown. These ideas are reiterated through academy and classroom rules.

Our PSHE curriculum embodies values of Mutual Respect through units of learning such as Relationships.

The Rule of Law

To appreciate that living under the rule of law protects us and is essential for our wellbeing and safety.

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days; when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws; that they govern and protect us; the responsibilities that they hold and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; Ambulance etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

We have a clearly structured Therapeutic Thinking: Behaviour & Relationships, which all stakeholders understand and follow; this can be found on our website.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

To accept that others, have different faiths or beliefs (or none) and these should be accepted and tolerated.

Hillborough Infant & Nursery School is a multi-faith school and is located in a diverse community.

We achieve the above through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. For example, this can be seen in are carefully thought out RE curriculum and our events that incorporate a multitude of faiths and celebrations. We follow the agreed syllabus for RE which provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures.

Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying are regularly held.

What if we have pupils who've been withdrawn from RE?

We always respect the parents' decision to withdraw their child and meeting with the Headteacher and RE Lead will be held to discuss withdrawal from certain topics. However, we make sure religious tolerance is taught elsewhere in the curriculum and that tolerance is a part of our values being taught.