

## **Promoting and Teaching British Values – Policy Statement**

***“The Convention applies to everyone: whatever their race, religion or abilities, whatever they think or say, whatever type of family they come from”***

*Article 2 UNICEF Convention on the Rights of the Child*

### **Statement of Intent**

This policy takes into account section 78 of the Education Act 2002 which requires schools, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum, to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and of society.

The Department for Education (DfE) has 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 and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs”.

### **Basic Principles**

Fairisle Infant and Nursery School is committed to serving its community. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. We understand the vital role we have in ensuring that groups of individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values were reiterated in 2014. At Fairisle Infant and Nursery School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

#### **Democracy:**

Fairisle Infant and Nursery School achieved its UNICEF Rights Respecting School Gold Level award. Each year the children decide upon their class charter and the rights associated with these. All the children contribute to drawing up the charter.

We have a school council which meets regularly to discuss issues which are further followed up in class council. Two children from each class are elected by their class to sit on the school council. Children can also vote on issues related to the school within the school council.

#### **The Rule of Law:**

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

expectations of children. Children are taught the values and reasons behind our expectations within the school's Rights Respecting ethos and that rules are there to protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and that there are consequences when rules are broken. Our behaviour policy has clear rewards and sanctions. Visits or links with authorities such as the Police and Fire service help reinforce this message.

### **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 young children to make choices safely, through our provision of 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, for example through e-Safety and PSHE lessons.

### **Mutual Respect:**

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect and this is a fundamental aspect of our Rights Respecting status.

Children are elected to be Rights Respecting Leaders who will encourage and reward other children for respecting theirs and others' rights.

### **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

We actively promote diversity through our celebration of different faiths and cultures. Assemblies are regularly planned to address this issue either directly or through the inclusion of stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. Our Religious Education (RE) and Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE) curriculum reinforce this. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. Children will visit or find out about places of worship that are important to different faiths.

In promoting our pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC) we demonstrate our commitment to actively promoting fundamental British values in ways which are appropriate to our pupils' age and ability.

We will ensure that our curriculum includes activities appropriate to the age and development of our pupils that will help to prepare them positively for life in modern Britain and the detail for this will be found in our curriculum planning.

As well as promoting British values, the opposite also applies: we will actively challenge pupils, staff, parents or visitors expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British values, including 'extremist' views.


Reviewed: September 2023

Next review: September 2026

**SIGNATURE STAMP**

These are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting that took place on:  
[20.9.23](#)

**Signed:**



**Rick Allan**  
**Chair of Governors**

**Approved Date:20.9.23**