



Townlands C of E Primary Academy

British Values Statement

A journey of learning in the light of God's love.

The Department for Education state 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 government has set out its definition of British values in the ‘Prevent Strategy’ and emphasises that schools are required to ensure these values are taught across the United Kingdom.

At Townlands C of E Primary Academy we have always recognised the importance of educating our children so that they understand the multi-cultural and multi-faith Britain we live in today. We ensure our pupils are ready to contribute to an ever-changing society.

At Townlands C of E Primary Academy we reinforce these values regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy

Democracy is embedded at our academy. Through our **R-Time programme**, pupils are taught to listen carefully and with concern for each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Our pupils are taught the value of respecting themselves and others around them. Pupils also have the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our **School Council**. The elections of the Academy Council members are based solely on pupil votes, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action. Pupil questionnaires are another way of ensuring the pupils have a voice. Our robust **behaviour policy** involves both rewards and sanctions; pupils are clear about the expectations at Townlands, hence the positive opinions of visitors to the academy and Ofsted. Golden time is a weekly reward for pupils and they are actively involved in deciding how they will spend their golden time. We also hold our annual Townlands Got Talent show where pupils from each class vote for their favourite acts, these pupils then have the opportunity to perform at our show in front of their families in assembly. We always seek, wherever possible, to offer opportunities to ensure our pupils can participate in a democratic process.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the academy or the country, is consistently reinforced through our curriculum, behaviour system and assemblies. Each class discusses the academy rules to ensure they are clearly understood by all, this ensures that every pupil is able to learn in a safe environment. We expect pupils to behave impeccably when they are on trips outside of academy and evaluations suggest that this is the case. Pupils are taught, through our behaviour system, what happens if they break the rules and that the wrong choices have consequences. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service are regular parts of our curriculum and help reinforce that laws of the land are in place to protect us.

Individual Liberty

Within academy, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a academy we provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely; examples of this can be clearly seen in our teaching of **e-safety** and **R Time** lessons. Whether it is through the curriculum or through participation in our numerous extra- curricular activities, our pupils are given the freedom to make choices. Pupils are also given the opportunity to be engaged in their learning through the use of personal negotiated targets and self-assessment of their work.

Mutual Respect

Respect is one of the core values that is evident at our academy; this can be seen in lessons in every classroom and around the academy. Pupils are taught our core values through **religious education, assemblies**, R Time lessons and **academy rules**. Additional support is provided for individual pupils, through our **Emotional Literacy Support programme** delivered by a Higher Level Teaching Assistant and also our **Family Support Worker**. The support helps to develop self-esteem and to give pupils strategies to help improve their respect of themselves and others. The core value of Respect at Townlands C of E Primary Academy underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom.

Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

Our core value of respect ensures tolerance of those who have different faiths and beliefs. Townlands C of E Primary Academy enhances pupils understanding of different faiths and beliefs through assemblies, a broad approach to religious education; P.S.H.E. work and end of term treats such as African Dancing and Steel Pans. Pupils participate in celebrations such as Diwali and Chinese New Year, and enjoy a depth of study during themed weeks covering History and Geography topics. Through our religious education curriculum, in key stage two we organise inter faith visits to a Gurdwara, Leicester Cathedral and a Jain temple to education our pupils about some of the different faiths in Leicestershire. Townlands C of E Primary Academy participates in sporting events across Leicestershire and pupils have the opportunity to take part in Olympic events such as Kurling and Archery. Our pupils with special educational needs also participate in inclusive sporting events within our local community. We have whole academy **daily acts of worship** where we share ideas, events, music and stories to promote the values expressed.