

# **PINNER WOOD SCHOOL**

## **British Values Statement**

### British Values

At Pinner Wood we see British Values as underpinning what it is to be a citizen in a modern and diverse Britain. They allow us to create environments free from discrimination, intolerance and hate. They help us to challenge prejudice and stereotyping, whilst strengthening relationships within the community.

British values have always been promoted in what do, during school assemblies, Religious Education, Philosophy and Personal, Social and Education (PSHE) sessions. The values are integral to our own Pinner Wood Values, which were designed with The British Values in mind.

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

The British values we espouse are not unique to Britain. We acknowledge that they differ in no way from the values of the many countries and the cultural backgrounds represented by families at Pinner Wood.

Below are just a few examples of how we promote British values. The first section, being part of Britain, is a general overview; the others are specific values set out by the Government.

### Being Part of Britain

As a school, we value and celebrate the diverse heritages of everybody at Pinner Wood School. Alongside this, we value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, this means we celebrate traditions and customs in the course of the year; for example, Harvest Festival in the Autumn Term and trips to the pantomime at Christmas. We also value and celebrate national events for example the jubilee and Coronation

Further, children learn about being part of Britain from different perspectives. Two specific examples of when we teach about being part of Britain are:

Geographically: Our learning ensures the children have a better understanding of what Britain is, learning more about:

- Its geographical features
- Where Britain is in relation to the rest of Europe and other countries in the world

Historically: Key moments and figures in British history are studied in the topics such as ‘The Fire of London’ and ‘WWII’

## **Democracy**

Children, parents and staff have many opportunities for their voices to be heard at Pinner Wood Primary School. Democracy is central to how we operate.

An obvious example is our School Council. The election of the School Council members reflects our British electoral system and demonstrates democracy in action: candidates make speeches, pupils consider characteristics important for an elected representative, pupils vote in secret using ballot boxes etc. Made up of two representatives from each class, the School Council has hosted visits from the Mayor's Office, the Mayor and the Governing body. Every year, we hold an election to vote for a Headteacher for the day and class teachers for the day, mirroring the process of the General Election.

Pupil voice is an important part of our school. The school belongs to the children and we have a range of systems to ensure pupils are heard. Through school councils, leadership roles, oracy assemblies and surveys, opinions and views of children are sought and acted upon to make changes.

Our behaviour policy includes rewards that pupils can vote for as a group. Children earn Values Time every week and choose what to do in that time. Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. We encourage pupils to take ownership of not only their school but also of their community. This encourages a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility and is demonstrated on a daily basis by our pupils. Children attend parent meetings if they so wish.

## **Rules and Laws**

The importance of rules and laws, whether they be those that govern our school or our country, are referred to and reinforced often, such as in assemblies and when reflecting on our behaviour choices. Pinner Wood has an agreed behaviour system known as our 'Pinner Wood Way'. This was designed by listening to the voices of pupils and staff. This is regularly shared, principles that are clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every class member is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment. We encourage all pupils at Pinner Wood to Step Up and take responsibility. Our Pinner Wood value **Step Up** underpins this value.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves, and the consequences when the laws are broken. These values are reinforced in different ways:

- Visits to other settings
- Visits from authorities such as the police, fire service and our MP.
- During Religious Education, when rules for particular faiths are thought about
- During other school subjects, where there is respect and appreciation for different rules

## **Individual Liberty**

Alongside rules and laws, we promote freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs. Through the provision of a safe, supportive environment, we provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely; for example:

- Choices about what learning challenge or activity
- Choices about how they record their learning, particularly home learning
- Choices around the participation in extra-curricular activities
- Choices around volunteering for responsibilities, such as Head Squad and School Council.
- Choices about the views they express in oracy assembly.

Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are taught how to exercise these safely, such as in our PSHE lessons, e-safety sessions and on trips such as the Isle of Wight.

Our promotion of '**Bee You**' as part of our Pinner Wood values underpins this work.

## **Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs**

Pinner Wood School serves an area which is culturally diverse and we are proud to promote and celebrate our different backgrounds and beliefs. Tolerance, politeness and mutual respect are at the heart of our aims and ethos.

Our central aim to 'have respect for and show kindness towards each other' drives us towards ensuring that our pupils are able to live and work alongside people from all backgrounds and cultures.

Our pupils know and understand that it is expected that respect is shown to everyone and to everything, whatever differences we may have. Children learn that their behaviour choices have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community are encouraged to treat each other with respect.

Our PW Value '**Heart of our Community**' underpins this value.

Specific examples of how we at Pinner Wood enhance pupils' understanding and respect for different faiths and beliefs are:

- Through Religious Education, PSHE and other lessons where we develop awareness and appreciation of other cultures – in English through fiction and in art and music by considering cultures from other parts of the world.
- Celebrating cultural differences through assemblies, themed weeks, newsletters, displays
- 'Bee You' initiative– celebrating what is unique about themselves.
- Cultural events such as the Iftar dinner, Windrush Carnival and Cultural Evening.

Whilst instances contrary to our values are relatively rare, we would treat any instance very seriously.

Miss Sarah Marriott