



Where a love of learning grows
Growing in knowledge
Growing in faith
Growing in God's love



Philippians 4:13 **"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"**

British Values Policy

Introduction

The Department of Education introduced a statutory duty for schools to promote British Values more actively from September 2014 and to ensure they are taught in schools.

In accordance with The Department for Education we aim to actively promote British values in schools to ensure young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain.

Pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance and understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law.

What are British Values?

The Key Values are:

1. Democracy
2. Rule of law
3. Individual liberty
4. Mutual respect
5. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At Cockerham we recognise that actively promoting these values means challenging opinions or behaviours in school that are contrary to fundamental British values.

All staff and visitors to the school are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values.

Definitions

In order to support pupil's understanding the what is meant by each of the key British values, we use child-friendly definitions:

Democracy:

We can make our voice heard by using our vote.

"So choose some men from each tribe. Choose wise men who have understanding and experience. I will make them leaders over you."

Deuteronomy 1:13

Rule of law:

We are expected to follow an agreed set of rules to help keep ourselves, and others, safe and happy.



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"Act justly and to love mercy and walk humbly with your God."

Micah 6:8

Individual liberty:

We have the freedom to make our own choices.

"We have freedom now because Christ made us free. So stand strong."

Galatians 5:1

Mutual respect:

We treat others as we wish to be treated ourselves.

"Do to others as you would have them do to you."

Luke 6:31

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs:

We recognise that people have different faiths and beliefs and we celebrate these differences and the variety that they bring.

"Don't judge other people, and you will not be judged."

Matthew 7:1

Aims and Objectives of the Policy

1. To ensure that all develop an understanding of the values which underpin life in Britain.
2. To teach pupils to have a mutual respect and tolerance for, and an understanding of the various faiths and beliefs represented in Britain today.
3. To ensure that all learn to uphold the rule of law and support freedom, justice and equality.
4. To help all understand and value the rich diversity that other citizens from different cultures, religions and backgrounds bring to our national society.
5. To value people's differences and to respect these.
6. To develop pupils' awareness and tolerance of communities different to their own.
7. To value democracy and to stand up for right against wrong.

British Values at Cockerham

Cockerham is an inclusive school and our ethos and curriculum enables children to be independent learners, to make choices and to build strong relationships with their peers and all adults.

We recognise that children learn most effectively when their personal, social and emotional needs are met, and where there are clear and developmentally appropriate expectations for their behaviour



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We will challenge pupils, staff or parents who express opinions contrary to fundamental British values.

Democracy

We respect, listen to and act on children and parent's voices. Children are involved in making decisions regarding the life of the school and are expected to contribute and co-operate within it, considering the views of others.

The Rule of Law

We consistently reinforce our high expectations of children. Children are taught the value of, and reasons behind our expectations (rules) that they are there to protect us, that everyone has a responsibility and that there are consequences when rules are broken.

Our Behaviour Policy aims to teach children to behave in socially acceptable ways and to understand the rights and needs of others. We use positive strategies to handle any conflict and praise and acknowledge desirable behaviours. We document all incidents of behaviour that is deemed in breach of this policy and the fundamental British values principles. Incidents are monitored and preventative action taken where necessary.

Individual Liberty

Children at Cockerham are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are given opportunities to resolve conflicts effectively.

Mutual Respect

We value all of our children and families. We celebrate our rich cultural and religious diversity and promote mutual respect. Children are modelled respect through caring, sharing and listening to others. Adults help children to understand how their actions and words affect others. All children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities are valued for their individuality and supported to achieve their best. Children are taught that life is not the same for everyone and we support a range of local, national and global charities.



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Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

We aim to enhance children's understanding of different faiths and beliefs by participating in a range of celebrations throughout the year. Children have the opportunity to dress-up in clothes and try different foods from other cultures and we encourage parents/carers to participate and support our multi-cultural events.

We ensure that posters, displays, information and our curriculum reflect the diversity of our world. We monitor all forms of bullying and harassment and actively promote courtesy and good manners towards all.

At Cockerham we aim to ensure that everyone who attends, works at or visits our school feels valued and respected.

How do we promote British Values?

Democracy:

At Cockerham, we value the thoughts, ideas and opinions of our children and work hard to ensure that their voice is heard.

Each year, we have a Hustings week, where Year 6 pupils have the opportunity to put themselves forward for election as 'Ambassadors/School councillors/Worship team members and house captains.' Children make posters which are displayed around school, and prepare speeches to deliver to all members of their House, before a confidential ballot takes place.

The Ambassadors have important decisions to make throughout the year in consultation with the other members of their House, such as what their reward will be if they are the winning House for the half term.

Our School Council is made up of 2 children from each class, voted for by their peers. The School Council represent the 'voice' of their class, sharing ideas with them and bringing suggestions back to the Leadership Team. The School Council also implement fund raising ideas to support the local, national and global community.

The Worship Team is made up of 2 children from each class, voted for by their peers. The Worship Team represent the 'voice' of the Christian values and work of the church, sharing ideas with them and bringing suggestions back to the Headteacher. The Worship Team also implement fund raising ideas to support the local, national and global community



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Rule of law:

Everything we do at Cockerham is underpinned by our understanding of the teachings of the Christian faith. Christian values are emphasised and encouraged in all aspects of school life, not just in Religious Education lessons and collective worship. Staff and children are committed to maintaining an atmosphere of mutual respect for each other. We encourage children to develop as individuals and to enjoy all aspects of school life, to care for one another and be friendly.

At Cockerham, we have high expectations of our children in terms of their conduct and behaviour. Children, staff, parents and governors are consulted annually on the content of the Behaviour Management Policy, which is then mutually agreed and implemented. We have a clear system of rewards and consequences which are applied consistently and fairly by all staff.

Our Behaviour Policy is shaped around encouraging children to recognise that every action has a consequence, not just for themselves, but for those around them.

Each year, children are required to read and sign an 'Acceptable Use Policy', which outlines behavioural expectations when working online. Parents, Staff, Volunteers, and Governors are also required to sign this document to ensure that rules for staying safe online are clearly communicated and understood. We also share our 'Home – School Agreement' annually, which outlines the expectations of pupils, parents and the school so that we can build good relationships and work together harmoniously.

We have a range of procedures in place in school which staff are expected to follow to ensure that everyone is kept safe. These include procedures for areas such as First Aid, Visitors and Emergency Evacuation. We have high expectations of staff in terms of their conduct and update our Staff Code of Conduct and Handbook annually, which all staff must read and sign.

Within the curriculum, we regularly invite visitors in to school to promote the need for rules to keep people safe. This includes annual sessions for Key stage 2 children, annual fire safety talks for Year 2 and road safety talks for Year 6, Year 6 Bikeability and Reception, Year 1 and 2 'Right Start' road safety training.

Individual Liberty:

Within school, children are actively encouraged to make appropriate choices; knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. This is underpinned by our school mission statement and values:

Courage

1 Corinthians 16: 13

Stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong

Friendship

Ecclesiastes 4: 9 – 12



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Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help.

Generosity

Timothy 6: 19

Be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

Perseverance

Romans 5: 4

And endurance produces character, and character produces hope,

Respect

Mark 12:31

'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

Trust

Psalm 56: 3

In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.

Every Friday, we hold a whole school 'Celebration assembly' which celebrates the achievements of individuals. During these assemblies, children are presented with awards for achievement, but also for attitude and demonstration of Christian Values. Children are also encouraged to bring in trophies, medals, badges or certificates that they have won for taking part in out of school activities, so that the whole school can share in their successes.

Out of school, there is a range of clubs/ sports that children can choose to be involved in. Where necessary, we use Pupil Premium Funding to ensure that finance does not create barriers to participation.

As much as possible, children are given the chance to make their own choices e.g. lunch choices / whether to do a lunchtime activity or play with friends / which clubs to join / whether they want to learn an instrument / choices within the curriculum. Our Behaviour Policy also encourages children to make their own choices with regard to appropriate conduct and meeting school expectations.

Mutual respect:

At Cockerham, it is important to us that children and staff know that they are respected. We listen to each other and we value the thoughts, ideas and opinions of others.

We show appreciation of alternative opinions, backgrounds and cultures through our curriculum, class discussions, assemblies and Collective Worship.

We regularly invite visitors into school to talk about the work of charities, which we are able to support in school. We have links with Lancaster food bank, who we work with across the year to provide food which supports the homeless of Lancaster.

We ensure that our children are taught about ensuring that they are respected. Work in PHSE regularly supports children's development of their understanding of the types of



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behaviours that they should and should not expect from others, and each year, we invite the NSPCC into school to deliver their "Speak Out Stay Safe" assemblies and workshops. We have a clear Anti-Bullying Policy which has been developed in collaboration with children, staff, parents and governors and is reviewed annually.

Where appropriate, we encourage the use of 'restorative justice' if a child has behaved inappropriately towards their peers, so that they can develop their awareness of how their behaviour makes others feel and the impact that it may have.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs:

We follow the Blackburn Diocesan RE Syllabus that includes 20% focus on studying Judaism and Islam. This is taught in a positive and enquiring way seeking to explore why people of other faiths practice as they do.

Every year, we learn about other faiths and celebrate diversity through our annual 'Multi-Faith Week'. This includes learning about other faiths through visits and visitors. We showcase our learning through our 'Multi-Faith Marketplace', where parents, carers and governors are invited to come into school to learn from the children about the faiths that they have studied.

We celebrate the festivals of the Christian calendar, inviting parents, carers and governors to join us either in school, or at Cockerham Church to participate in services which are led by the children.

We promote Christian values through worship, RE, PSHE and in the general ethos of our school.

British Values in the Curriculum

We use the 1Decision alongside the PSHE association programme for the teaching of PHSE and Citizenship, which includes specific units relating to the teaching of British Values. Where possible, cross curricular links are also made through themed work to develop children's awareness and understanding of British Values.

Links to other policies

- Prevent Policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Behaviour policy
- SEND Policy
- Equalities Policy
- RE Policy
- Collective Worship Policy

Related Documents

- 'Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools': DfE (2014)
- 'Revised Prevent Duty Guidance': Gov.UK (2019)



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