

## British Values Statement

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key 'British Values' are taught in all UK schools. The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. The five British Values are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At Al-Ashraf Primary School, we are fortunate that our pupils, their families, our staff and other partners represent a diverse range of home backgrounds and cultures, although all are from Muslim homes. We teach a broad curriculum which links with the national curriculum. It also incorporates the interests of pupils and supports them in becoming good local, national and global citizens of the future.

At Al-Ashraf, we prepare learners for life in modern Britain by: equipping them to be responsible, respectful, active citizens who contribute positively to society; developing their understanding of fundamental British values; developing their understanding and appreciation of diversity; celebrating what we have in common and promoting respect for the different protected characteristics as defined in law.

At Al-Ashraf, we are committed to serving our community and local area. Our school reflects British values in all that we do. We nurture our pupils on their journey through life so they grow in to caring, responsible and tolerant adults who make a positive difference to British society and to the wider world. We encourage them to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and others in our school, our local community and beyond.

In doing so, we reinforce British values regularly and in the following ways:

### Democracy:

Democratic values are an explicit part of the ethos at our school. All adults listen to the views of the pupils and value their opinions. Pupils have further opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council, Assemblies, debating clubs and newsletters. The school council consists of two members from each class who are nominated and voted for. These groups canvas the opinions of their peers. They have recently been very instrumental in decisions about additions to our playground and PE equipment and raising funds for the school. The parent's committee promotes closer links between home and school and also ensures that the voices of parents are heard

## **The Rule of Law:**

The importance of laws and rules are consistently reinforced in the classroom, as well as through school assemblies. Pupils are taught to understand the need for laws – which are in place for individual protection, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Pupils follow a positive behaviour policy and clearly understand the rewards and sanctions that are used. Assemblies, discussions in class and PSHE lessons focus on recognising right from wrong and visits from services such as the Police, Fire and Ambulance services to help reinforce the message. Teachers will discuss rules at the start of the year with the class and will empower them to create the rules they should follow.

## **Individual Liberty:**

Pupils are encouraged to be independent learners, constantly making choices, within a safe and supportive environment. Developing their self-esteem and self-confidence is very important. Pupils are encouraged to understand their personal freedoms and are taught how to use these rights to best effect. All pupils are encouraged to support charities, whether local, national or global. They are taught consideration for others through our Religious Education curriculum and PSHE lessons in particular. E-safety teaching enables them to make choices in a safe manner. The Student council allows pupils to have a voice and to make contributions to their school. It is important that they are given the opportunity to express their views on issues of concern to them in the school. It is equally important that they are listened to and encouraged to take an active part in promoting the aims and objectives of the school.

## **Mutual Respect:**

Our school's ethos and behaviour policy are based on intrinsic Islamic values, of equal love for all, equal respect for all and equal faith for all. Our Islamic ethos constantly promotes respect for others and the importance of good manners. All pupils are also taught the importance of self-respect, honest and open communication with others and fair play. This is reiterated through our classroom rules, as well as our behaviour policy, PSHE lessons, circle time, school assemblies and links with other schools. Diversity is also promoted

through the annual celebration of 'World day' for cultural diversity. An assembly is held to raise awareness amongst the children about different cultures, diversity and inclusion. It is hugely successful and enjoyable as it deepened children's understanding about different cultural values and the importance of showing respect and tolerance towards it.

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

As a faith based school, pupils are reminded of their place in a culturally diverse society. This is achieved through our Religious Education and PSHE curriculum and the ethos of the school. Assemblies are planned to give children opportunity to reflect on a variety of beliefs, cultures and moral values. Class work promotes the diversity of society and the right for each person to be respected and valued equally regardless of ability, gender, faith, heritage or race. Members of different faiths or religions are invited to school to share their knowledge and enhance learning in class. Exchanges with other schools and visits to other places of worship also help pupils understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

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