

British Values in The Talking Base

Our Values Statement

We promote 'British Values' through our spiritual, moral, social and cultural education which permeates through the school's curriculum and supports the development of the 'whole child'.

We recognise that such development is most successful when those values and attitudes are promoted by all the staff and provide a model of behaviour for our pupils.

Pupils placed in The Talking Base will have opportunities to experience British Values and the SMSC curriculum both in their mainstream classes and through a more personalised approach in the Resourced Provision.

'British Values' have been identified as:

- **Democracy:**

The ability to understand and communicate are the most important areas of learning. We ensure that pupils are given a 'voice' to communicate. This 'voice' could be using words, objects, photographs, pictures, symbols, Communication Books, eye pointing or body language.

We empower our pupils by giving them opportunities to make choices about the things that they believe to be important. By valuing each 'voice' and by listening and responding to that voice we demonstrate that we support democracy and liberty.

- **Rule of Law:**

We involve pupils in setting codes of behaviour within The Talking Base; helping pupils to make decisions and choices that are acceptable to the school community and society at large.

Pupils are helped to learn to manage their behaviour and take responsibility for their actions. Staff are committed to providing a consistent and predictable environment within the school and beyond. We can help some pupils to understand the connection between actions and consequences. This type of environment enables pupils to feel safe and secure; this in turn, promotes the optimum conditions for learning to take place.

- **Individual Liberty:**

Pupils are encouraged to become good and valued citizens. We do this by supporting each pupil to become as independent as possible. We endeavour to demonstrate that everyone has rights; this includes the right to say 'Yes' or 'No' to ideas or activities. Some pupils will be able to take responsibility for particular roles and to understand that with certain rights comes a level of responsibility. Learning to do things independently is an important part of learning to understand yourself.

We support others by participating in charitable events such as Red Nose day and Camo Day. We believe that engendering a caring and helpful environment and to be independent can boost and nurture a healthy self-esteem.

- **Mutual Respect:**

We promote each pupil's inclusion in activities, settings and locations that are appropriate to them individually to meet their needs. Within school, pupils work with a range of people and interactions with others are always positively promoted on a personalised basis for each individual. This may include working with students from mainstream classes, coaches and specialist visitors.

The curriculum is personalised and planned for pupils and may include transitioning within the range of resources and places on the site and going into the community to meet with a range of people in a variety of situations which include: sports events, art workshops, community events and shared participation with other resourced provisions.

We believe it is important to facilitate opportunities to be part of the community as the pupils, families and staff have much to offer in the development of community cohesion.

- **Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs:**

We are part of a school and local community where each person is respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.

Cultural appreciation and development forms part of our curriculum. We place great emphasis on providing encounters and participation in events and celebrations to broaden all pupils' experiences and awareness of others.

Main school Assemblies and Talking Base Circle Times (including Show and Tell sessions) help all pupils to find out about themselves and others linking their lives to the communities in which they belong. The themes cover areas such as: friendships, helping others and celebrations from a range of faiths and world events.

Pupils are encouraged to experience British Culture through our curriculum themes. For example, pupils have visited many local places. As a school, we take part in sporting activities which helps to instil 'fair play' and engender a 'team spirit'.

Although some of our pupils may find it difficult to articulate their feelings and concerns; staff are attuned to changes in demeanour and well-being that may indicate anxiety. If they are concerned about a pupil our accepted practice links to the Safeguarding Policy which entrusts a duty of care to all staff to actively protect and promote the welfare of children.

The staff work closely with parents, carers and other professionals to ensure that the pupils in The Talking Base are happy, well cared for and enabled to learn the skills they need to live a fulfilling life as part of their community.

- **Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC)**

The Talking Base has a strong commitment to the personal and social development of all pupils. The school vision and values, put together by all the staff, supports spiritual, moral, social and cultural characteristics in all pupils.

SMSC in The Talking Base is personalised for all our pupils.

- **Spiritual development is when we:**

Explore beliefs and experience; respect faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.

- **Moral development is when we:**

Recognise right and wrong; respect the law; understand consequences; investigate moral and ethical issues; offer reasoned views.

- **Social development is when we:**

Use a range of social skills; participate in the local community; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participate, volunteer and cooperate; resolve conflict; engage with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.

- **Cultural development is when we:**

Appreciate cultural influences; appreciate the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participate in culture opportunities; understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity.

In The Talking Base pupils' SMSC development is seen for example in:

- Taking part in a range of activities regarding social skills
- Developing an awareness and respect for diversity
- Developing an understanding of right and wrong.
- Developing the communication skills to make choices about likes/dislikes in school then in wider community visits.
- Taking part in sporting opportunities.
- Taking part in cultural opportunities.
- Taking part in artistic opportunities.

SMSC is embedded throughout the mainstream curriculum and in The Talking Base. This integrated approach ensures that aspects of SMSC are explored and considered at the appropriate level and using the appropriate language in all subject areas.

The senior leadership team audits SMSC and Governors monitor it across school.

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