



Promoting
British Values
Policy

Clee Hill Community Academy

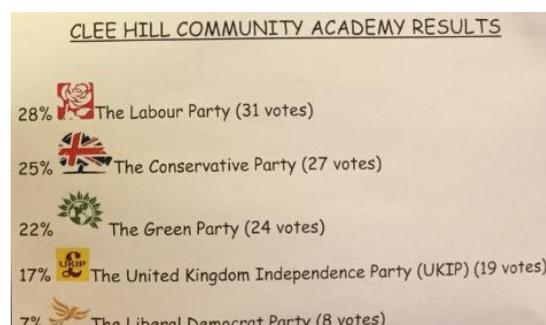
BRITISH VALUES

In 2014, the Prime Minister reiterated the need for British values to become an inherent part of education within our schools. It was stated that we need *'to create and reinforce 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'*.

At Clee Hill Community Academy we take these values seriously and reinforce them regularly in the following ways:

Democracy

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and respectfully to others as each individual has a right to be heard and their opinions valued. The School Council is formed for the children to have their opinions, ideas and concerns valued as they do through questionnaires. The election of the council is based solely on pupil votes which reflects the British electoral system which demonstrates democracy in action. Pupils are also given the opportunity to 'vote' for their preferred candidate in mock elections alongside the General Election to encourage an interest in British Politics and an understanding of the different political parties.



The Rule of Law

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced. Each class also discusses and sets its own rules 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. Our pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibility it involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the police and fire service etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and 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 e-safety, R.E. and some cases discrete PSHE lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge; of how they record; of participation in our numerous extra- curricular activities; our pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy are based around core values such as 'respect' and 'responsibility' and these values determine how we live as a community at Clee Hill Community Academy. The pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have and to everything, however big or small. The core value of respect at our school underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom. Posters around the school promote our Values for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, religious education as well as our behaviour policy.

Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society through assemblies, RE, PHSE and other opportunities. We use opportunities such as the Olympics and World Cup to study and learn about life and culture in countries such as Brazil. We welcome visitors from other schools and association that are not predominately white British and enjoying a depth of study during themed weeks. Here, beliefs, traditions and customs are studied in depth, with visitors being invited in to our school to enrich and extend understanding. Through this our pupils gain an enhanced understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society.

British Values through the Curriculum

Interwoven within the curriculum in a range of curriculum areas are planned opportunities to teach the values of our society. Some examples are;

- **History:** How we influence democracy is explored through the curriculum and assemblies. This includes looking at historical figures such as Nelson Mandela and Gandhi and exploring the effectiveness of different approaches. The Rule of Law and the importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country is consistently reinforced at Clee Hill Community Academy. Britain and its influence in modern times are aspects woven into our imaginative learning projects including special celebrations days throughout the year. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights, whilst understanding that with exercising their rights comes responsibility.
- **Geography:** We ensure that pupils have a better understanding of what Britain is; learning more about its capital cities and counties, its rivers and mountains, and where Britain is in relation to the rest of Europe and other countries in the world.
- **Music:** During our assemblies, music, including British composers, are shared as a composer of the week and their music and global influence is discussed together.
- **Art:** The study of how British artists influence others around the world.
- **Religious Education:** Gaining a greater understanding of religious diversity and practices which covers key religions represented in the UK. All pupils have the opportunity to visit places of worship that are important to different faiths. Clee Hill Community Academy actively promotes diversity through celebrations of different faiths and cultures.

- **Physical Education:** Promotion of the concept of “fair play”, following and developing rules, inclusion, celebrating and rewarding success, being magnanimous in defeat and participation in activities that promote kinship and affiliation with others.
- **Computing:** Pupils are also taught about respect and bullying in the online world through our learning platform and through regular e-safety lessons.
- **School Council:** Promotion of democratic processes, fostering the concept and application of freedom of speech and group action to address needs and concerns. Key to this is the concept of holding others to account, including those in positions of influence and authority.
- **Educational visits:** Our broad range of educational visits and experiences outside of the classroom equips our pupils with the skills to make a positive contribution to their community as equal citizens, as well as being able to look at British heritage in more depth.
- **Community Events:** Clee Hill Community School has a key role in the local community. We work closely with charities and organisations such as 'The British Legion', Comic Relief, Children in Need, British Heart Foundation, Air Ambulance etc. We also are part of RotaKids which includes working with members of the community including local artists & photographers, raising money for local causes, attending local events, and completing heart start training. We encourage our pupils to interact with pupils from other schools, both within the SGET trust and outside the Trust, through organised activities.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

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This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by the learning in RE and PSHE. Pupils also learn about other faiths as part of the R.E. curriculum. Annual trips to mosques, temples, synagogues as well as churches are woven into the curriculum.

Rationale

Under Section 78 of the Education Act 2002 it requires schools, as part of their broad and balanced curriculum, to promote the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of students at the school. It also requires the school to prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

In June 2014 schools were required to actively promote British Values from September 2014 with the DfE reinforcing the need *to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British Values.*

These British Values are defined as:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and belief

At Clee Hill Community Academy we are committed to actively promoting British Values and this forms part of our wider work in school with children in relation to their Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) education. At the heart of these values lie good relationships between the staff and pupils working together towards a common goal. Work is already in place to support and further embed these values and it is our aim this is effectively shared with pupils, staff, governors and the wider community. These values are integral to our vision and ethos and are regularly reinforced in a variety of ways.

Aims and Objectives

At Clee Hill Community Academy we aim to:

- Actively promote all the fundamental British Values;
- Encourage pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain;
- Ensure that principles are actively promoted which:
 - Enable pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence;
 - Enable pupils to distinguish right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England;
 - Encourage children to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality in which the school is situated and to society more widely;
 - Enable pupils to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England;
 - Promote further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and others cultures;
 - Encourage respect for other people, paying particular regard to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010; (see appendix)
 - Encourage respect for democracy and support for participation in the democratic process, including respect for the basis on which the law is made and applied in England
 -
- Prevent the promotion of partisan political views in the teaching of any subject in the school and take such steps as are reasonably practical to ensure that where political issues are brought to the attention of pupils they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views. This should be:
 - While they are in attendance at the school;
 - While they are taking part in extra-curricular activities which are provided or organised by or on behalf of the school;
 - In promotion at the school, including through the distribution of promotional material, of extra-curricular activities taking place at the school or elsewhere.
- Protect children and young people against messages of all violent extremism including but not restricted to those linked to Islam ideology, Far Right, Neo Nazi/ White Supremacist ideology etc.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Governors and staff at Clee Hill Community Academy will:

- Ensure that fundamental British Values are embedded as an integral part of the ethos and culture of the school;
- Challenge opinions and behaviours in schools by pupils, staff, visitors, volunteers or parents and carers that are fundamentally contrary to British Values, including extremist views;
- Ensure that all visitors to the school are screened to ensure that they do not attempt to promote systems that undermine fundamental British Values including extremism or radicalisation;
- Ensure that the pupils understand that living under the Rule of Law protects individual citizens and is essential for their well-being and safety and that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law;
- Teach our pupils about democracy and the rule of English civil and criminal law and will not teach anything that undermines it;
- Ensure all pupils within the school, regardless of age, have a voice that is listened to;
- Demonstrate how democracy works and by developing and understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making by actively promoting democratic processes such as electing a school council whose members are voted for by the pupils;
- Reinforce fundamental British Values through SMSC, PHSE and through assemblies;
- Ensure that our pupils are taught a balanced RE curriculum, that is broadly Christian, which also takes account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Britain;
- Ensure that our pupils understand that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected by law;
- Ensure that we develop a tolerance and understanding of different faiths, cultures and beliefs by visiting places of worship, inviting visiting speakers to the school and using teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help pupils understand a range of faiths;
- Enable our pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to our local community and life in modern Britain;
- Enable our pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in the community of the school. E.g. supporting younger children etc;
- Deliver a balanced programme of assemblies which promote pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development, providing clear guidance on what is right and what is wrong;
- Ensure an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination, extremism and radicalisation;
- Ensure that there are effective risk assessments, policies and procedures in place to safeguard and promote pupils' welfare against the threat of extremism and radicalisation.

Policy reviewed: 11th July 2017

Policy review date: July 2020

Head Teachers signature:

Chair of Governors signature:

Appendix

Equality Act 2010 see attached notes

School Council – elected each year with representatives from each year group. Members will be asked to report to the school each term in assembly which may include a question and answer session.

Planning – Planning has been put in place by staff which covers all aspects of British Values outlined in the policy. This has been done alongside the R.E curriculum where links have been made with topics taught in each class.

Celebrations – A wide variety of events covering British Values and aspects of R.E will be made each year. Staff will look at these and select 1 or 2 each term to plan as a whole school activity.

School Visits - Each term an aspect of British Values/R.E will be discussed and selected by staff and a whole school visit planned (possibly as KS1 and KS2 separately).