

Statement of British Values for Curzon CE Combined School's website

The government set out its definition of 'British Values' in its 2011 Prevent Strategy and since September 2014, the DfE places an expectation on schools to promote these fundamental 'British Values'.

As a Church of England school, we uphold our Christian distinctiveness and the Christian values which underpin our ethos and determine everything we do. Our Christian values of courage, kindness and respect provide the secure foundation for the government's 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. Many of these values are shared by people from different traditions in a diverse British culture. The school values are displayed around the school. They are also referred to in assembly, with parents, in class and when considering any pupil behaviour which falls below the school's usual high expectations.

At Curzon, British values are also secured and complemented by the seriousness with which we take our equality duties. These permeate all that the school does, being reflected in relevant policies, planning and decisions and being the subject of specific governor and staff training.

Some examples of how the promotion of British Values is core to life at Curzon are:

Democracy

Pupils learn about the practice of democracy from the outset of their time at Curzon through voting for class representatives to sit on the School Council and to act as Eco councillors; voting to appoint year 6 pupils as house captains; or voting to decide which charities to support. All children are encouraged to debate topics of interest, express their views and make a meaningful contribution to the running of the school on matters that directly involve pupils. Our Class Point system, used to help praise whole classes, features rewards chosen by the children. Within the curriculum (particularly in PHSE) there are opportunities to learn about the role of democracy, for example in the Jigsaw unit Being me in My World. Year 4 learn about democracy at school council level and this is extended in Year 5 and 6 where pupils learn about being a citizen and having a voice through a democratic process. In Year 6 pupils also learn about global citizenship and children's universal rights.

Rule of law

Pupils at Curzon learn about the operation of the rule of law in practice through our Behaviour Policy. This sets out our high expectations of pupil behaviour and explains how positive reinforcement is used to maintain standards and how unacceptable behaviour is dealt with. We are committed to praising children's efforts. Children are rewarded not only for achievement in curriculum areas, but also for behaviour. Rewards are given in the form of house points, class points and certificates. Children's achievements are also recognised during Celebration Assemblies. At the start of each school year, parents and pupils sign up to our home-school agreement. Separate Codes of Conduct set out our expectations for pupils, including at after-school clubs and on educational visits, as well as for staff and governors. As to the theory of the rule of law, pupils are taught that adhering to school rules is vital at Curzon, for the safety and enjoyment of all, and to create an environment in which all pupils can learn and flourish.

Individual liberty

Curzon values the individuality of all pupils.

At the end of Year 6 we intend that a typical Curzon child:

- Is articulate in explaining thoughts and opinions.
- Advocates for what is fair and just.
- Knows what is right and wrong and can make the right behaviour choices.

We pride ourselves in how we develop our pupils' social skills to become future good citizens. We aim that they will be able to make informed decisions, within reason and respecting the other British values and the rights of

others. Within school, pupils are actively encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. For example, by signing up for extra-curricular clubs, opting to challenge themselves physically on our outward-bound trips and choosing the level of challenge in some lessons. As a school, we educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment, a planned curriculum and an empowering education. Vulnerable pupils are protected and stereotypes challenged.

One of our aims is to encourage our pupils to think for themselves, take initiative and risks, thereby developing their self-confidence; our growth mind set initiative and focus on the value of courage help pupils achieve this. At Curzon, we celebrate historic events that upheld individual liberty, such as the Armistice.

Mutual respect

Respect is one of our school values. Showing respect at Curzon ranges from listening to what others have to say, to respecting our environment, and everything in between. Pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone and everything.

At the end of Year 6 we intend that a typical Curzon child:

- Lives out the Curzon values of courage, kindness and respect.
- Is respectful to those from different world views and accepting of different needs.
- Shows care towards the environment.
- Is able to use technology respectfully and to enhance their learning.

Respecting diversity and differences is a key part of our curriculum. We do not tolerate bullying and harassment of any kind. We aim to reflect the culturally diverse nature of our local, national and global community and society. We ensure that the education we offer fosters positive attitudes to and respect for all people. Staff and pupils are encouraged to challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.

Our curriculum is inclusive and we are mindful of diversity in the way we are teaching the National Curriculum, for example showing children the positive sides of life in Africa when learning about our twinned school in Kirongo. Our Jigsaw PSHE resources show a range of family units. Through the PSHE and RE curriculums pupils are encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people, such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations.

RE is organised so that each class studies a different religion in depth alongside their work on Christianity. This is enhanced by visit and visitors. Our choice of artists, musicians and a PE unit on games for less able athletes also reflect our aim to celebrate diversity. We have reviewed and upgraded our classroom books to ensure inclusiveness.

Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

At Curzon, we don't wish to merely "tolerate" those with different faiths and beliefs; instead we seek to positively embrace them. We proactively encourage parents of other faiths and cultures to visit our school and share their beliefs and backgrounds, and thus we regularly welcome visitors of Sikh, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim faiths and traveller backgrounds to talk to our pupils, share their music or their food, whilst our pupils have visited a local mosque and Sikh temple. For some years now, Curzon has been fostering links with a school very diverse to ours. Our pupils exchange letters and DVDs with pupils from the Rainbow School in Kirongo and fundraise to buy them essential supplies in the support of both school and local community projects.

Our Outstanding SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) judgement in 2018 and our Good Ofsted judgement in 2017 are testimony of our support of British Values and of the way we prepare our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in modern Britain.