



## British Values at Deanshanger Primary School

Following the non-statutory guidance from DfE in 2014, the Prevent Duty (2015) and the 2002 Education Act (section 78), Deanshanger Primary School supports British values in conjunction with our duty to promote the spiritual, moral social and cultural (SMSC) development of each child. Elements of SMSC include collective worship, a strong school ethos and a variety of activities inside and outside the classroom to understand and celebrate the community and world that we live in. Through our class work, assemblies, school and community activities, we regard all faiths, races and cultures with the great respect and appreciation. Our commitment to strong and embedded British values is outlined below.

### Democracy

Democracy is demonstrated through ensuring that all stakeholders have a voice and that this is acted upon where viable. The views of parents and cares are actively sought through open-door communication and an annual parent survey. Governors hold the senior leadership to account and ultimately help shape the forward direction of the school through a formal democratic process.

The children's voice is actively encouraged and is evident in various aspects of school life from regular discussions in class to specific roles such as – Prefects, School Council, Anti-bullying Committee (BNTO – Be Nice to Others), Librarians, Garden Gang and the Eco Team. These groups play an active role in decision making in the school.

The election of class names, Sports Leaders, School Council and house system, was through a democratic election. The school had its own 'big vote' on the last general election day.

### Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We encourage children to share their thoughts and experiences and proved nurturing support as appropriate. The school's Learning Mentor is able to assist in this area.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised on how to exercise these safely for example through our E-Safety, PSHCE and Behaviour Policy. Whether through the choice of extra-curricular clubs or special roles in the school, pupils are given the freedom to make choices. The breadth of our unique skills both inside and outside school, are celebrated in assemblies and our permanent celebration display in the school hall.

At all times, we recognise that with liberty comes a responsibility to others, whether it is through supporting or exercising our rights in an appropriate and considerate manner.

### The Rule of Law

At the start of each school year, children are asked to consider the expectations they have of the teacher, each other and themselves. These are the backbone of the 'rules' that inform their behaviour and attitude to every day in class and around the school. The importance of rules based on mutual expectation, whether they are those that govern the class, the school, or the county, are consistently reinforced in class, assemblies and on the playground. The rules are reinforced constantly and are visibly displayed around the school in the class and in the assembly hall on banners designed by the children.

Pupils are taught the value and reason behind laws – that they govern and protect is, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken.

Positive rewards for upholding school rules are distributed in the form of school wide house 'power points', celebration postcards and awards, Top Table lunches and Head teacher Tea Parties.

### Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

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 learning in RE and PSHCE. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school. We engage with local faiths in the community and have had both assembly and curriculum time looking at different faiths led by key members within the community. Key cultural events are recognised and celebrated.

### Mutual Respect

We respect ourselves, others and our environment – these are key reoccurring themes in assemblies, class discussions and demonstrated through everything that happens in the school. Displays around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our school values and behaviour policy. Respect is demonstrated through the everyday actions of the children and staff to each other and outside visitors and through learning about the courage and lives of others. These provide a point of reflection, conversation and recognition.

In summary the leadership, staff and governors of Deanshanger Primary School take extremely seriously our responsibility to develop our pupils' awareness of what it means to be British. We aim to do this through explicit consideration of the overarching values identified above but also through curriculum activities that promote a fuller understanding. The International Primary Curriculum (IPC) is used to provide authentic and creative learning opportunities. Specifically in History strands, children will learn about the key events and people that shaped our society local and internally; Geography will give them an understanding of the physical attributes of the United Kingdom on a local and national scale and comparisons with other countries; RE and PSHCE provide opportunities to explore the principles by which we and others in the country, local community and internationally, live our lives.