

Statement on British Values

2023

At Swallowfield we provide opportunities for pupils to explore their own culture and develop their understanding of the cultural influences that have shaped modern Britain. We understand the role that this education plays in protecting children from radical and extremist ideas through the promotion of British Values, as identified in the Prevent Strategy 2011.

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs



SUPPORT • NURTURE
INSPIRE • ACHIEVE

Democracy

*Democracy is active within the school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Parliament and Pupil questionnaires. The election of School Parliament members is based solely on pupil votes.

*Values Champions is also another way the children can use democracy. Each half term classes will be asked to vote for a classmate who has demonstrated the school values.

*Pupils have a great amount of input in regards to what and how they learn as they decide upon what they would like to learn about at the start of each term and the teachers use this to inform planning.

*We know that the formation of the school council and the active participation of our pupils will sow the seeds for a more sophisticated understanding of democracy in the future.

The Rule of Law

*Our pupils will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. We want our pupils to understand that whether these laws govern the class, the school, the neighborhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to.

*The importance of rules to keep us safe are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days.

*Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when rules are broken.

*Throughout the year and more specifically, during the 'World at Work' week, visits from authorities such as the police, fire service, nursing and banking help reinforce this message.

*Through the RE curriculum children learn that their right to hold differing faiths and beliefs is protected in law.

Tolerance

*Swallowfield follows the Bedfordshire RE agreed syllabus which ensures that all children learn about the main religions and teaches respect and understanding for the cultures, beliefs, opinions and traditions of others.

*Class assemblies also help to contribute to the knowledge of special occasions, beliefs and customs.

We use opportunities such as the Olympics and current news and events from around the world to help the children study and learn about life and cultures in different countries.

*Through our curriculum and the routines of our daily school life, we strive to demonstrate tolerance and help children to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens who can build a better Britain for the future.

Individual Liberty

*Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms through our Values Education and PSHE curriculum.

*Within school pupils are actively supported to make choices by our safe and supportive environment.

*We offer a range of clubs which pupils have the freedom to choose from, based on their interests and skills.

*Through our E-Safety days, we educate children on their rights and personal freedoms as well as supporting them in recognising how to exercise these freedoms safely.

Mutual Respect

*Mutual respect is at the core of our school life. The children learn to treat each other and staff with great respect and value differences in themselves and others. This is evident when walking around the school and in the classrooms.

*Sports activities promote an attitude of equality and fairness.

*Our PSHE curriculum embodies values of mutual respect.

*The school runs buddy schemes to develop mutual respect between pupils across different phases.

*Weekly celebration assembly places equal value on pupils' achievements.