

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education and promoting fundamental British values policy



Churchdown School Academy
ACHIEVING SUCCESS FOR ALL

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Person responsible:	Mr S Hastings

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1. Aims

Promoting British values

Churchdown School Academy is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multicultural, multifaith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subject to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly or illegally influence them.

It follows equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar.

The school is dedicated to preparing pupils for their adult life in modern Britain beyond the examined curriculum, serving the whole community and ensuring that it actively promotes and reinforces British values to all its pupils.

The Government emphasises that schools have a duty to ensure that key 'British values' are taught in all UK schools. The Government sets out its definition of British values in the 2015 Prevent Strategy. The four British values are:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

The school uses strategies within the national curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for pupils. The examples that follow show some of the many ways the school actively promotes embedded British values.

This statement should be read alongside the school's **Anti-bullying and hate policy**, **Behaviour policy** and **Racial harassment policy**.

2. Strategies

2.1 Preparing for adult life as citizens of Britain

The school will help pupils to prepare for their adult life as citizens of Britain by helping them to:

- Develop their self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Develop their understanding of right and wrong, and their respect for the law.
- Encouraging them to take responsibility for their behaviour.
- Encouraging involvement in the community and wider society.
- Encouraging respect for the public services and institutions of Britain.
- Promoting tolerance of and respect for all cultures and faiths.
- Encouraging participation in the democratic process.

2.2 Democracy

The principle of democracy is consistently being reinforced at the school, with democratic processes being used for important decisions within the school community. For instance, elections being part of the process for selecting Head Boy and Head Girl positions and Parliament representatives. Pupils have a voice that is listened to through the school Parliament. The principle of democracy is also explored in history and religious education as well as in tutor time and assemblies. A debating society supports this value.

2.3 The rule of law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the school or the country, are consistently reinforced at the school. Pupils are taught the rules and expectations of the school which are highlighted by the school's **Behaviour policy** and 'Pupil 10'. Pupils are taught the value and the reasons behind the laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the police and magistrates within the school reinforce this message.

2.4 Individual liberty

At the school pupils are actively encouraged to make independent choices, in the knowledge that they are in a safe, secure, and supportive environment. Staff at the school educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. 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 e-safety sessions during tutor time. The school has a robust **Anti-bullying and hate policy** and **Racial harassment policy**.

2.5 Mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Respect is a strong part of the school. Pupils learn that their behaviour influences their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect, and this is reiterated through its teaching and learning environments. Mutual respect is embraced throughout the curriculum by providing the opportunity for pupils to express their views in a safe environment, with the school's aim to 'develop personal responsibility and respect'.

Tolerance is achieved through equipping pupils with the ability to understand their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity within the school community and indeed wider community beyond the school gates.

The syllabus taught throughout our curriculum helps pupils to have a broader understanding of the spiritual, moral, and sociological issues and encourages them to think about their own spiritual development.

The school strives endlessly to ensure that its pupils leave with the strongest foundation of values upon which to build a successful life and a successful contribution to our society.

3. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed by Mr Hastings biennially. At every review, the policy will be approved by the leadership team.

4. Links with other policies

- Anti-bullying and hate policy
- Behaviour policy