



## Dovecot Primary School

### Statement on British Values

Dovecot Primary School is committed to serving its community and surrounding areas. We recognise the multi cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom, and therefore those it serves.

The DfE have reinforced the need *“to create and enforce 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.”* We know that many other cultures would also share these beliefs and want to promote them strongly within our school.

Our school accepts admissions from all those entitled to an education under British law, including pupils of all faiths or none. It follows the policies outlined by its governing body regarding equal opportunities, which guarantee that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar.

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key ‘British Values’ are taught in all UK schools. The government set out its definition of British Values :

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

**Should you feel that the school is not meeting this requirement, you should contact the school office and request to express your concerns with the Head teacher. Likewise, if you feel that anyone working at the school is, intentionally or otherwise undermining these values, you should report this to the Head teacher.**

Through a wide range of activities, Dovecot Primary School aims to secure such standards and use strategies within the National Curriculum and beyond to secure these relevant outcomes for children. The list below outlines samples of when and where such British Values are shared. The list is not exhaustive, and represents only some of what we do.

**Subject studies:** Developing the skill base required to access/share information, make/express decisions and apply themselves to society and the world. These include the understanding and use of money, effective writing and reading skills, collaborative work, to discuss and research ideas and concepts, and gain a broad and balanced understanding of the society in which they live. Aspects of study beyond core skills include historical and geographical context of the United Kingdom, as well as international comparisons.

*Learning together, growing together*



**Daily acts of collective worship/ assembly:** The sharing of stories, images, events, music and expectations that promote the values expressed. Such proceedings vary in the methodology of delivery in order to secure interest and understanding and are designed to impact on children regardless of knowledge, experience or maturity. In our school, assemblies are non-denominational and recognise that those attending may have a wide range of faiths, or none. It is however, in line with guidelines for schools and is “*wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character*”.

**Religious Education:** Gaining a greater understanding of religious diversity and practices, which covers key religions represented in the UK is a key element of RE at Dovecot Primary. We follow the agreed Liverpool scheme and are proud of our reflective approach to all aspects of RE.

**Physical Education:** We promote 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. We believe in encouraging children to ‘have a go’ as this is a great life lesson.

**School Council:** This helps us to promote 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 authority and influence.

**Other:**

Many aspects of these values can be found in the hidden curriculum, not in discrete sessions. Here are a few examples of these:

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police; Fire Service; Lifeguards etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help to reinforce this message. We have particularly strong links with the local community police officers who are positive role models in all aspects of citizenship.

Within school, 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 young pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our online safety and PSHE lessons. Whether it be through being part of oracy groups, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.