



British Values Policy

In accordance with the DfE document: ‘Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools; Departmental advice for maintained schools (November 2014).’

St Stephens Community Academy

The An Daras Multi Academy Trust (ADMAT) Company
An Exempt Charity
Limited by Guarantee Company Number/08156955

Status: Approved	
Recommended	Yes
Statutory	
Version	v1.0
Adopted v1.0	Summer 2017
Reviewed and approved	Summer 2018
Next Review	Summer 2018
Advisory Committee	Local Governing Advisory Body
Linked Documents and Policies	SSCA Vision and Aims Statement SSCA SMSC Policy 15 SSCA SMSC Curriculum Statement 14 National Curriculum 14 SSCA Faith and Belief Policy SSCA Collective Worship Policy SSCA Curriculum Policies SSCA Behaviour Policy SEAL PSCHE SRE Policy Online Safety Policy

St Stephens Community Academy

British Values Policy

At St Stephens Community Academy, we take very seriously our responsibility to prepare children for life in modern Britain. We ensure that the fundamental British Values are introduced, discussed and lived out through our curriculum and values that infuses the ethos and work of the school. All curriculum areas provide a vehicle for furthering understanding of these concepts and, in particular, our Faith and Belief, SMSC, PSCE, UNICEF and Online Safety lessons provide excellent opportunities to deepen and develop understanding. Pupils embrace these concepts with enthusiasm and demonstrate a good understanding of their application to their own lives.

Our school makes considerable efforts to ensure pupils have exposure to a wide range of experiences beyond their local community during which these concepts are shown, through for example, sporting events, residential visits to London and outdoor centres, enrichment activities and through visiting speakers from other denominations and groups. Their strong-rooted values-based understanding gives them an excellent platform for embracing difference.

Rationale

We are part of a British society, and it is important to us that our pupils learn the universal principles of:

- Self-help
- Self-responsibility
- Democracy
- Equality
- Equity
- Solidarity
- Openness
- Honesty
- Social responsibility
- Caring for others

At St Stephens Community Academy, we uphold and teach pupils about the British Values which are defined as:

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

We will achieve these values, for all staff and pupils, by:

- Creating an open, inclusive ethos where pupils and adults can be themselves, developing courtesy, respect and tolerance for others.

- Promoting mental health and wellbeing through our curriculum as well as using internal and external services for support.
- Promoting equality of opportunity outlined in our policies.
- Having a clear code of conduct, where pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions.
- Encouraging collaboration as one of our core learning powers.
- Supporting and promoting leadership skills and responsibilities within the school, for example, through our Pupil Forum, UNICEF steering group and ECO group.
- Taking an active interest in and supporting our more vulnerable families and pupils in the wider community who are not as fortunate as us.
- Ensuring that partisan political views are not promoted in the teaching of any subject in school.
- Ensuring that where political issues are brought to the attention of pupils, steps are taken to offer a balanced presentation of opposing views to pupils.

Our broad and balanced Curriculum will promote these values by providing opportunities:

- to celebrate diversity, different festivals and key celebrations in the year.
- to learn about our nation and its heritage, for example, during Remembrance service.
- to learn about key British leaders, explorers and inventors.
- to use our school grounds and local area as much as possible.
- that encourage a sense of community responsibility, for example, visiting the local Church, police and fire services.
- to learn about different cultures and faiths; how are we different from one another, and how are we the same?
- to understand Launceston and Cornwall as part of a global community; learning about and communicating with others from across the world.

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through our daily assemblies and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running a successful Pupil Forum, UNICEF steering group and ECO group. We also actively promote the British values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values. Actively promoting British Values also means challenging pupils, staff or parents who express opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including ‘extremist’ views.

Democracy:

Democracy is an important value within our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our Pupil Forum, UNICEF steering group and ECO group, as well as within their learning. The elections of members of our groups and positions of responsibility are based on pupil votes. Pupils recommend each other for the UNICEF ‘Rights Child of the Week’, which is awarded to individual pupils who show they are modelling the values of safety, respect and responsibility in line with our class and school charters. Regular discussions within classes ensure there is democracy in the classroom where pupils discuss problems, ideas and suggestions, for example, on how our school could be improved. Opportunities like these ensure that ‘Pupil Voice’ is securely engrained within the ethos and work of the school.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced. In line with becoming a ‘Rights Respecting School’, every class has their own ‘Charter’, created by the pupils and reviewed regularly. Other charters are also visible across the school, for example, our ‘Lunchtime Charter’ and ‘Playground Charter.’ Our ‘Reflection Zone’ provides pupils with an opportunity to reflect on their behaviour choices. Pupils are asked to identify which ‘right’ they took away from another individual and what responsibility they have, to ensure that this connection is made between right and wrong and understood. Our ‘3 Strike System’

for behaviour is aligned to our charters and pupils are given the opportunity to reflect on and discuss their actions and future behaviour choices. 'Credits' reward pupils for abiding by our charters and making the right behaviour choices.

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 school calendar and help to reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty:

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and planned curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights whilst also understanding their responsibilities within school. Pupils are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our Online Safety teaching and PSHE lessons. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, for example, by signing up for extra-curricular clubs, choosing the level of challenge in their lessons and becoming increasingly involved in child-led learning.

Mutual Respect:

Our school ethos and behaviour policy is based around core values such as 'safety', 'respect' and 'responsibility' and these values determine how we live as a community at St Stephens Community Academy. Pupils and adults alike, including visitors, are challenged if they are disrespectful in any way and visitors are asked to abide by our 'Visitor Charter.' Our values are highly visible around the school and can be seen in displays, rewards and as part of our agreed codes. An understanding of how individuals can contribute to the well-being of those in the locality and beyond are addressed in the curriculum, through projects and fundraising.

Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

This value is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our local community.

Our School Library promotes a wide range of cultural, religious and faith fiction and non-fiction books which are updated and reviewed regularly.

Our curriculum is dotted with National and International Religious Festivals and Cultural events such as UNICEF's 'Day for Change', 'Send my Friend to School' week, Diwali, Hanukkah etc. As a school, we encourage children to research and discover differences and similarities between us and other countries.

Although we will promote a democratic process, it is not acceptable for pupils or adults to deliver forceful messages of a political standpoint and this will be dealt with in accordance with our Behaviour policy.

RRSA:

Within our British Values teaching, we, as ADMAT Schools, aim to promote the UNCRC in all aspects of our work. This reflects our position as a Rights Respecting School.

British Values relates to the UNCRC articles:

Article 2 (equality): 'The convention applies to everyone: whatever their race, religion or abilities, whatever they think or say, whatever type of family they come from.'

Article 7 (equality): 'Every child has the right to a legal name and nationality, as well as the right to know and, as far as possible, to be cared for by their parents.'

Article 12 (freedom of expression): 'Every child has the right to have a say in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.'

Article 13 (freedom of expression): 'Every child must be free to say what they think and to seek and receive all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.'

Article 14 (equality): 'Every child has the right to think and believe what they want and to practice their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights.'

Article 17 (right to education): 'Every child has the right to reliable information from the media. This should be information that children can understand.'

Article 23 (equality): 'A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and independence, and to play an active part in the community.'

Article 29 (goals of education): 'Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.'

Article 30 (equality): 'Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, regardless of whether these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.'

Article 31 (freedom of expression): 'Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.'

Other relevant policies

When considering British Values, other St Stephens Community Academy policies should be accessed: Behaviour, SMSC, Online Safety, PSCE, Sex and Relationship Education, Faith and Belief (RE) & Collective Worship.

This policy will be shared with all staff and be available on the academy website.

Review timetable

This policy was written in the Summer term 2017. It was reviewed in Summer term 2017. It will be reviewed in Summer 2018 by SMSC Leader.

Policy first agreed –**Summer 2017**

Review – **Summer 2017**

Policy published on website – **Summer 2017**

Signed..... Chair LGAB

Signed..... Head of School

Signed..... Executive Head Teacher

Date.....