



RIVERLEY
PRIMARY

British Values

Date: September 2020
Review Due: September 2021

Reviewed Annually

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 also understand the vital role we have in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to bullying, intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

We follow equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality or financial status, or similar. Riverley Primary School is dedicated to preparing pupils for their life at Secondary School and adult life beyond. We ensure that we promote and reinforce British Values.

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 in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

The five British Values are:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

At Riverley we use strategies within the National Curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for pupils. The following examples show some of the many ways we embed these British Values:

Democracy

The principle of democracy is consistently being reinforced at Riverley Primary School, with democratic processes being used for important decisions within the school community. Our Learning Council, House Captains and School Ambassadors are democratically elected and are representatives for the class or house. Pupils learn that their voices are heard through systematic and democratic means. We use letter writing projects to persuade or ‘campaign’ for change and encourage pupils to be informed and to ask questions.

The principle of democracy is also explored in the History and Religious Studies curriculum as well as in PSHE and assemblies. Our Power of Reading Books and Whole School topics are chosen specifically to inspire pupils to learn about different periods of history.

We also engage with the process of democracy in the context of the local and national democratic systems through:

- Trips to Walthamstow Town Hall where pupils meet with local councilors and participate in a democratic debate in the Town Hall Chambers.
- Our debating club which provides children with further opportunities to develop their persuasive language and present their own views as well as responding to the views of others.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced at Riverley Primary School.

Pupils are taught the rules and expectations of the school which are highlighted by our Riverley Values of Creativity, Ambition, Responsibility and Empathy. These values, chosen by our pupils, show that learning to be responsible and to have empathy is underpinning our ethos, our school rules and our high expectations.

Pupils are taught the reasons behind laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. These expectations are instilled through:

- Fire Safety Instruction and Workshops from the London Fire Brigade
- Community Police Safer Neighbourhoods
- London Transport Safety Talks
- E-Safety Workshops
- Riverley Values
- Behaviour systems in classrooms
- Houses and House Points rewards systems

Individual Liberty

At Riverley Primary School, pupils are actively encouraged to make independent choices, with the knowledge that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. Staff at Riverley Primary 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 Lessons
- Cyber-Bullying Assemblies
- Enterprise Projects

Riverley Primary has a robust anti-bullying culture and has in place a comprehensive Behaviour and Anti-bullying Policy. Our values led agenda supports creativity, but within a shared culture that celebrates responsibility and empathy. Pupils study inspirational historical figures who have fought and campaigned for the greater good of groups and individuals.

Mutual Respect

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around Core Values such as Responsibility and Empathy and pupils have been part of discussions and assemblies relating to what these values mean and how they are put into practice. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom rules and behaviours for learning. Our vision for Riverley is 'Proud History, Bright Future' because we value everyone's history and heritage and the history of our school and our community. Pupils learn that everyone brings something different to our school and everyone has the right to be treated with respect. Our PSHE Programme teaches pupils in a structured way and focuses on:

- self-control
- emotional understanding
- positive self-esteem
- relationships
- interpersonal problem-solving skills.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Belief

This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to learn about differences and similarities on a daily basis. Riverley serves an extremely culturally diverse community and assemblies and discussions about prejudice and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. We follow the Waltham Forest Agreed Syllabus for RE and pupils learn about and from different religions. Celebrations from the Christian Calendar form many of the 'proud traditions' of our school and pupils are encouraged to share their experiences of celebrations, traditions, customs, rites of passage and special times and places. We use trips out to places of worship to support our curriculum.