

British Values Statement

At DSLV we are committed to serving our local community and endeavour to prepare our students to live in the wider community. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. We also understand the vital role we have in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

At DSLV we follow 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. We are dedicated to preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal, examined curriculum and ensuring that we promote and reinforce British values to all our students.

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

The five key British Values are:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

DSLV uses strategies within the national curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for students. The examples that follow show some of the many ways we seek to promote British Values.

Democracy

Democracy is an important value at our school. Students have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our school council and through regular discussions with the head teacher and their class teachers. The elections of council members are based upon pupil voices.

Children have the opportunity to express their opinions also through:

- Additional pupil voice activity
- Faculty reviews
- Interview process (Where appropriate)
- Parental forums (Via parents)

At every opportunity, the views of other children are encouraged and children are actively taught to listen and take into account of others views.

The Rule of Law

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 assembly. Students 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 the police, fire services etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help to reinforce this message.

The activities in school that teach the rule of law are:

- Assemblies and RE lessons which teach the views beliefs of different religions.
- School behaviour systems (SMART Charter)
- Home/ school agreement
- Class behaviour systems
- Regular visits by our PCSO
- Road safety and the laws of the road (Primary)

Individual Liberty

Within school, students 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 students to make choices safely, through provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, e.g. through our PSHE, assemblies, our E-safety curriculum and curriculum enrichment days. We give children lots of freedom to make decisions and this freedom is based upon trust.

We develop individual liberty by:

- Encouraging children to play and interact responsibly in our grounds, giving them freedom to choose where they want to play within some restrictions.
- Developing the children's ability to assess risks and make informed choices about the equipment they use; how they use the playground equipment and where it is sensible to play.
- Giving children lots of choices within the school day, buddy systems, deciding which clubs they want to attend etc.
- Staff relying on children to be part of important jobs in school i.e. peer mentoring, prefects, individual job roles within school
- Developing independence when children are taken on educational visits.

Mutual Respect

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around our SMART Charter.

All members of the school community treat each other with respect and care. Displays around school promote respect and consideration for one another and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy.

We develop and promote mutual respect through:

- Our behaviour policy
- Broadly Christian values, respecting other faiths.
- The school's curriculum
- The ethos of the school
- PSHE. RE. Citizenship
- Assemblies
- Tutor time programmes

Tolerance of those of different faiths

This is achieved through enhancing students understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PHSE. Members of different faiths or religions and those who speak languages other than English are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes.

We develop tolerance of different faiths and beliefs through:

- The ethos of our curriculum
- RE lessons
- Trips and residential visits
- Charity work throughout the school year.

A grid showing our activities in more detail accompanies this statement.