

## How we promote, teach and embed British values at Shire Oak Primary School

With the governors we have carried out a review of our Values Statement to ensure that they also enshrine British values (as defined by Lord Nash to include democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs.) We were satisfied that the Values Statement that was written with the involvement of children, parents, staff and governors is a good starting place for us to feel confident about how we approach British values at our school.

**Please see overleaf for the highlighted and annotated copy of the Values Statement.**

The Senior Leadership Team periodically **monitor and review** provision in the light of this requirement and maintain a list of where evidence has been found in school.



Our broad and balanced **curriculum** provides specific teaching opportunities to make sure the children understand about tolerance, respect and how citizens can effect change. A few examples include:

Going Green and other environmental topics – respect for the planet and how people can lobby for change

RE – learning about and from the different faiths represented in Leeds and the contribution people of faith make to charitable work, etc.

Philosophy – the value of each person's opinion and their right to express it, whilst understanding how to challenge the views of others in a constructive way.

Sex and relationships education – that young people have autonomy over their own bodies and, as they get older, choice about their sexual partners in the context of loving relationships.

The **wider life of our school** presents many planned and unplanned opportunities to embody these values. Examples include:

Multicultural Arts Week which is held every other year and which celebrates the diversity of our community with activities such as British folk singing and dancing, African music and dance and Islamic art. As a church school we are skilled at teaching the children *about* a range of faiths and beliefs, encouraging them to learn *from* other cultures whilst maintaining one's core principles and beliefs.

School Council demonstrates to children how democracy works and helps to improve their lives. Children are elected by their classmates, regular meetings are held and the discussions and decisions are shared with the whole school. Children see that their representatives have interviewed staff, changed arrangements for playtime and lunchtime, influenced the behaviour policy and introduced new rewards to school.

On election days, the presence of a polling station in the school grounds provides opportunities for children to visit and find out about the electoral process.

Our behaviour policy explains the expectations we have of children (and adults) and includes key concepts such as how we work restoratively to sort issues out and the importance of forgiveness. Specifically, racism, sexism and homophobia are 'Straight to 5' breaches of our behaviour code and parents are informed, signalling school's clear stance on these issues.

Each week the children nominate a Citizen of the Week for exemplary modelling of our values.

Our link with St Michael's church gives children the opportunity to learn about Christian worship in an inclusive Parish church and to see the work done in the community as a result (e.g. Harvest Festival collection).

Our Collective Worship/assembly overviews show the range of topics covered which include Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning, the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and a cycle of topics which include Saints Days, Festivals from world faiths and other events, such as Fairtrade Fortnight.



# Shire Oak CE (VC) Primary School Statement of Values

SHIRE OAK  
C of E (VC) Primary School

## Rooted in the community – growing for the future

Highlighted to show examples of British Values and *annotated* with the values embodied.

### What are our values?

Children at Shire Oak enjoy creative teaching and high quality learning.

All our children are encouraged to fulfil their potential in a happy, safe and nurturing environment.

We express our Christian values in a sensitive way while, at the same time, **welcoming families of different faiths and beliefs.** (*tolerance/mutual respect*)

Children at Shire Oak **recognise their responsibilities towards each other, the local community and the wider world.** (*citizenship/rights and responsibilities*)

### How do we live our values?

#### Teaching and learning

Our aim is for all children to make the best possible progress through high quality teaching and learning.

We ensure children develop **the key skills they will need for later life.** (*equipped to live in society*)

We provide all children with a broad and balanced education that meets their particular needs. Children and staff are encouraged to be creative in all areas of learning.

The school works closely with parents/carers; we recognise that children are more likely to fulfil their potential when we work together.

#### A happy, safe and nurturing environment

Staff and pupils show **mutual respect** for each other.

We enjoy a stimulating and purposeful atmosphere in school.

Our school is a happy place; children know that their concerns will be dealt with promptly and effectively.

Children **learn to be good friends, to care for each other and work cooperatively.** (*cooperation/social skills*)

School provides a **safe and secure environment** in which children learn to **deal with risk appropriately.**

#### Social responsibility and behaviour

We expect **high standards of behaviour from all members of the school community.** (*respect for rules*)

Children develop an understanding of right and wrong.

Children are supported to play **an active part in the life of the school.** (*citizenship/democracy*)

Children develop the knowledge and skills to make **positive life choices.** (*social skills*)

Through sharing and celebrating different faiths, children develop an awareness of the role of spirituality in everyday life.

#### The school and the community

Children are encouraged to play **an active part in the local community and develop an understanding of their role as global citizens.** (*citizenship/democracu*)

The school **works closely with partners from our local community** to provide a wide range of learning experiences.

We actively promote environmental sustainability in all aspects of school life