YARDLEY WOOD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Statement of British Values

Autumn 2026
To be reviewed autumn 2029

Promoting British values

Yardley Wood Community Primary School is committed to serving its community. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom. It also understands the vital role it has in ensuring that groups or individuals within the school are not subjected to intimidation or exclusion.

Actively promoting also means challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views. At Yardley Wood Community Primary School, values of inclusion and respect permeate all areas of school life. This engenders a climate within which pupils feel safe and secure and facilitates the fulfilment of potential. Pupil voice plays an integral part in driving the school forward and school rules at different levels are seen as the foundation upon which this can be achieved.

It follows 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. School is dedicated to preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its students.

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

The school uses strategies within the National curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for students. The examples that follow show some of the many ways Yardley Wood Community Primary School seeks to embed British values.

Democracy

The principle of democracy is consistently being reinforced with democracy processes being used for important decisions within the school community, for instance, elections being held for councilor positions and sports captains. The principle of democracy is also explored in the History and Religious Studies curriculum as well as in assemblies.

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 Yardley Wood Community Primary School.

Students are taught the rules and expectations of the school which are highlighted by the student code of conduct and student expectations. Students are taught the value and the reasons behind laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police and Fire Service reinforce this message.

Individual liberty

At Yardley Wood Community Primary School, students are actively encouraged to make independent choices, with the knowledge that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. Staff educate and provide boundaries for students to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education.

Students 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 and the PSHE curriculum.

Yardley Wood Community Primary school has a robust anti-bullying culture and has in place a range of strategies to support and develop behaviour.

Mutual Respect

Respect is a strong part of Yardley Wood Community Primary School and is embedded in the school's ethos. Students learn that their behaviour has an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect and this is reiterated through its teaching and learning environments.

Mutual respect is embraced throughout the curriculum by providing the opportunity for students to express their views in a safe environment and through initiatives such as Philosophy for Children which allows for children to explore and share their mutual respect.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

This is achieved though equipping students with the ability to understand their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving the opportunities to experience such diversity within the school community. Students are actively encouraged to share their faith and beliefs within the school and celebrate festivities throughout the calendar year. The Religious Studies curriculum provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures.

Yardley Wood Community Primary School strives endlessly to ensure that its students leave with the strongest foundation of values upon which to build a successful life and a successful contribution to our Society.

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Policy approved by the Governing Board:

Signed …… Chair of Governing Board

Date ……