

# British Values Statement



September 2022

At Bettridge School we value the diversity of backgrounds of all students, families and the wider school community.

**The Department for Education states that there is a 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”.*

The Department for Education defines British Values as follows:

Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process

Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England

Support for equality of opportunity for all

Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law

Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

Our school reflects British values in the experiences, activities and lessons we plan for our students. We aim to nurture our children on their journey through life so they can grow into safe, caring, democratic, responsible and tolerant adults who make a positive difference to British society and to the world. We encourage our children to be creative, unique and open-minded, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world.

**At Bettridge School, we actively promote British values in the following ways:**

## DEMOCRACY

Assemblies/School Council – Students are encouraged to talk about topics of interest, express their views and make a meaningful contribution to the running of the school on matters that directly involve them. Children also have the opportunity to have their voices heard through pupil questionnaires and pupil surveys.

For some students, and where appropriate, the principle of democracy is explored in the curriculum as well as during assemblies and special days

## RULE OF LAW

Where appropriate, our classes follow classroom rules or codes which are integral to our learning and ethos every day.

Where used, class rules and expectations are clear, fair and regularly promoted.

Students are always helped to distinguish right from wrong, in the classroom, during assemblies and on the playground.

Students are encouraged to respect the law and Bettridge School enjoys visits for some students from authorities such as the Community Police Officer to help reinforce this message

## INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

Within school, students are actively encouraged, and given the freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.

Students are supported to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and our pastoral support reinforces the importance of making the right choices.

Where appropriate, students are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-safety teaching and PSHE lessons.

Vulnerable students are protected and stereotypes challenged. A strong anti-bullying culture is embedded in the school and any form of bullying is challenged and addressed. The school also operates a robust system of logging incidents.

Students can have key roles and responsibilities in school e.g. as part of the student council

### MUTUAL RESPECT AND TOLERANCE OF THOSE WITH DIFFERENT FAITHS AND BELIEFS

Students know and understand that it is expected that respect is shown to everyone, adults and children.

Staff and, where appropriate, students are encouraged to challenge prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.

Links and visits are promoted with local faith communities and places of worship.

Through the PSHE and RE curriculums, students are encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people such as differences of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender or sexuality and differences of family situations.