



# **BUCKSHAW PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## **Promoting British Values**

Buckshaw 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 we have in ensuring that groups or individuals within our school are not subjected to 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, political or financial status, or similar.

Our School is dedicated to preparing pupils for their adult life beyond the formal examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all our pupils.

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, which we link both to our curriculum and to our SEAL work.

The five British Values are:

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

Our school uses strategies within the National curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for pupils. The examples that follow show some of the many ways school seeks to embed British values.

## **Democracy**

The principle of democracy is consistently being reinforced at Buckshaw Primary School, with democracy processes being used for important decisions within the school community, for instance, elections being held for School Council and Head of House positions. The principle of democracy is also explored in the History and Religious Studies curriculum as well as in lesson time and 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 our school.

Pupils are taught the rules and expectations of the school which are highlighted by the school's code of conduct and pupil expectations. Pupils 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 Buckshaw 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 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 and independent work.

Buckshaw has a robust anti-bullying culture and has in place a comprehensive Behaviour for Learning Policy.

## **Mutual Respect**

Respect is a strong part of Buckshaw Primary School and is part of its core values. Pupils learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. We expect 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 pupils to express their views in a safe environment.

## **Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs**

This is achieved though equipping pupils 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. Pupils benefit from a number of visits and visitors, including from other cultures. Additionally, pupils are actively encouraged to share their faith and beliefs within the school and celebrate festivities throughout the calendar year. The Religious Studies curriculum, which is compulsory for all pupils, provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures.

Buckshaw Primary School strives endlessly to ensure that its pupils leave with the strongest foundation of values upon which to build a successful life and a successful contribution to our society.

Karen Stephens

September 24<sup>th</sup> 2015.