



## Promoting British Values at Donisthorpe Primary School

### Outline of approach and future actions

The DfE have recently reinforced the 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 Prevent strategy, published by the Government in 2011, is part of the governments overall counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. The aim of the Prevent strategy is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. In the Act this has simply been expressed as the need to "prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Act) places a duty on certain bodies ("specified authorities" listed in Schedule 6 to the Act), in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This guidance is issued under section 29 of the Act. The Act states that the authorities subject to the provisions must have regard to this guidance when carrying out the duty.

At Donisthorpe Primary School British Values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

#### **Curriculum**

In Key Stage 1 children are taught about similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods, how changes within living memory reveal changes in national life, and about events beyond living memory that are significant nationally. They also learn about the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national achievements.

In Key Stage 2 children continue to develop their knowledge of British and local history. Periods of British history studied include The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain, Britain's settlement by the Anglo Saxons, the Viking and Anglo Saxon struggle for the kingdom of England and local history.

The school has a yearly focus on the Remembrance Day commemorations where children purchase poppies and a two minute silence is held in a special assembly. In 2014 children in Year 5 and Year 6 visited The Somme Battlefield's in France; on their return led a whole school Week of Remembrance culminating in a Peace service led by Reverend Elphick our local Church of England representative.

As a whole school, we have celebrated the World Cup, the Olympics and Para Olympics, with Olympic themed sports days and special Olympic weeks.

Royal celebrations play a large part in our curriculum offer for example, the Golden Jubilee.

Our whole school assemblies are very important to us, and it is here that we regularly uphold the traditional values of empathy, respect and tolerance. These are also taught within formal PSHE, Citizenship and RE lessons and, indeed, the British values of respect, tolerance and empathy are fostered throughout all of our daily interactions: modelled by staff and nurtured in pupils.

#### **Future Action**

- Monitor teaching and learning of RE/PHSE/Citizenship



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#### **Democracy**

We have 16 School Ambassadors from Year 5 and Year 6, who meet regularly to discuss issues raised by children across the school. The council has its own budget and is able to effect change within the school. Areas for focus are chosen by the children and voted on at School Ambassador Meetings.

Democracy is explained in assembly and the children are encouraged to follow the news in relation to voting, with children given opportunities to debate the issues currently being addressed.

Through our curriculum children are taught about, and encouraged to respect, public institutions and services.

Children complete an annual pupil questionnaire where they are able to put forward their views about the school.

Pupils are selected at random for pupil interviews with members of the Senior Leadership Team to seek their views and opinions on a range of school and community issues.

Pupils in Y6 are given the opportunity to take part in Year 6 Junior's Speak events which are local debating competitions organised by the rotary club of Ashby.

#### **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 Donisthorpe Primary School.

Children are taught from an early age the rules of the school or as we call it, The Donisthorpe Way. Children are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws, that they 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 help reinforce this message.

#### **Future Action**

- Continue to promote the Donisthorpe Way and the importance of following rules and using morals to guide judgements

#### **Individual Liberty**

At Donisthorpe Primary School, pupils 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 children to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. Children are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE work. These ideas are reiterated through the school and classroom rules, as well as our behaviour policy

Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, whether through choice of challenge in lessons, how they record their work, or their individual participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities.

#### **Mutual Respect**

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

Donisthorpe Primary School provide opportunities for the children to visit places of significant cultural interest, places of worship and we actively encourage visitors from a range of communities and organisations into school.

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Each year group support various charities including, Comic Relief, Children in Need and collecting for our local Food Bank. They plan fundraising and awareness raising activities to support these charities.

Assemblies regularly promote 'respect', and pupils have been part of discussions related to what this means and how it is shown. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and learning rules, as well as our behaviour policy.

#### **Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs**

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. We have visits from the local Vicar as well as church members who run a regular 'Open the Book' assembly.

We value first hand experiences and as a result we seek to build tolerance and respect of different faiths and beliefs through the study of a variety of faith buildings.

We use assemblies to explore and understand the similarities between religions. Curriculum topics include learning about and, most importantly, **from** other faiths and misconceptions between religions are addressed as well as prejudices that have been expressed by the community.

The school holds a yearly Week of Culture where we immerse the children in a different culture, with food, art and music dance and drama from visiting workshops.

Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying are regularly held. We follow the Leicestershire Agreed syllabus for RE and use the SEAL materials to enhance PSHE teaching.

#### **Future Action**

- Plan annual multi faith visits to Leicester to explore in greater depth different cultures and beliefs promoting tolerance and mutual respect

