

# REGIS MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL



## Promoting British Values Policy

### **Document Management**

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Approved by:	Local Governing Body
Responsible for:	Head of School/Executive Headteacher

Since 2014 there has been a statutory duty for schools to promote British Values and to ensure they are taught in schools. At Regis Manor British values are promoted in so much of what we do during our school assemblies, Religious Education and Personal, Social Health Education sessions. The values are integral to our long-standing inclusive ethos which complements British values.

As well as actively promoting British values, the opposite also applies: we actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British values, including 'extremist' views.

Regis Manor Primary School is committed to serving its community and 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 radicalisation by those wishing to unduly, or illegally, influence them.

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. Regis Manor Primary School is dedicated to preparing children for their adult life beyond the formal curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces British values to all its pupils.

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

**The five key British Values are:**

1. Democracy
2. The rule of law
3. Individual liberty
4. Mutual respect
5. Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Regis Manor Primary 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 in which Regis Manor Primary School seeks to instil British values.

**Being part of Britain**

As a school, we value and celebrate the diverse heritages of everybody at Regis Manor. Alongside this, we value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, this means that we celebrate traditions and customs in the course of the year; for example, Patron Saints Days and celebrations at Christmas. We also value and commemorate national events such as Remembrance Day.

Further, children learn about being part of Britain from different perspectives. Two specific examples of when we teach about being part of Britain are:

Geographically: Our rivers, coasts and seaside holiday topics ensure that children have a better understanding of what Britain is, learning more about:

- its coasts, rivers and mountains
- where Britain is in relation to the rest of Europe and other countries in the world

Historically: Key moments in British history are studied in the topics such as “London”, and “Britain Since 1930s”. We also take pride in studying our local area.

### **British values**

#### **Democracy**

Democracy is embedded in the school. Pupils are listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. We encourage pupils to take ownership of not only their school but also of their own learning and progress. This encourages a heightened sense of both personal and social responsibility and is demonstrated on a daily basis by our pupils. The democratically elected School Council provides a more formal platform for class representatives to raise issues and suggest fundraising ideas.

Parents’ opinions are welcomed at Regis Manor through methods such as questionnaires, feedback at parents’ evenings, parents’ forum and liaison with the Friends of Regis Manor.

#### **The Rule of Law**

The importance of law, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days; when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. In order to help children understand how society cannot operate without a set of laws, we teach them how our school rules create an ordered, fair and safe place in which to learn. The class rules are agreed by the children and are displayed in classrooms. We help children to distinguish right from wrong and adopt restorative justice approaches to resolve conflicts.

The school has a clearly structured behaviour policy which all stakeholders understand and follow. During the school year we have visits from the police to talk to the children encourage pupils to understand that the law protects us and is essential for our well-being and safety.

#### **Individual liberty**

Our children have the opportunity to make individual choices and express opinions that develop their character and self-belief. However, they are encouraged to develop these qualities in the context of the rights and needs of other members of our school community. We model freedom of speech through pupil participation in class in the context of a safe, fair, supportive and ordered learning environment. We discuss and challenge stereotypes and implement a strong anti-bullying culture.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge, of how they record, choose their lunch options, of participation in extracurricular clubs and opportunities etc., pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

#### **Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs**

Respect is one of the core values. Children are encouraged to respect themselves and to respect individual differences. This is a fundamental principle that is put into practice in the classroom, around school, in the playground and in assemblies. We are lucky to have a diverse school community

encompassing different languages, backgrounds and faiths. We help our children to acquire an understanding of, and respect for their own and other cultures and ways of life. We celebrate the languages spoken by some children in the school and the festivals celebrated by some of our families and welcome visitors who can widen our children's horizons even further.

We follow Kent County Council's agreed RE syllabus, which provides a broad and balanced education on a range of faiths, religions and cultures.

### **Extremism**

The school is aware of the need to be vigilant when it comes to extreme attitudes or behaviour of any kind and appropriate actions will be taken accordingly. All staff are full trained by the designated safeguarding lead. Our overriding aim is to teach children to be resilient to such attitudes. This involves pupils being taught how to ask probing questions and make sound judgements for themselves about what is right and wrong.

### **Further links:**

Departmental advice on promoting basic important British values as part of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-fundamental-british-values-through-smsc>

Departmental advice for schools and child care providers on The Prevent Duty

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>