



*Inspiring All to Excellence*



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**Violet Way Academy**

# **British Values**

## Rationale and Principles

The DFE expects all schools to play a part in preparing pupils positively for life in modern Britain and promoting the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and those without faith. At Violet Way Academy, we actively promote the British values through our school values, ethos and culture, our curriculum (including RE and PSHE) and by engaging our pupils in wider curriculum events throughout the year.

Each academy within the Trust celebrates British values in different ways. At Violet Way Primary Academy we welcome and embrace the opportunity to promote these values and this document sets out the learning that takes place within our Academy. The fundamental British values are;

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

## Aims and Values

Our vision for Violet Way Academy is to work in close collaboration with parents, the local and wider community, to *inspire all to excellence* and to inspire our pupils to *Reach for the Stars*. We want our pupils to reach the highest standards of achievement and personal success through engaging in a range of learning experiences that foster curiosity and capitalise on their unique talents.

Our ethos will reflect our school values: *We care, We are brave, We celebrate individuality, and We leave no one behind*. As a result, a Violet Way pupil will stand out as a child who is compassionate, never gives up on others, takes their opportunity and allows others their moment to shine and always aspires to achieve more overcoming obstacles or setbacks.

A key part of our plan for education at Violet Way is to ensure children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background.

Violet Way staff and community members will be expected to promote the basic British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs. This will ensure young people understand the importance of respect and leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

Examples of the understanding and knowledge pupils are expected to learn at Violet Way include:

- An understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- An understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- An acceptance that people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour.

- An understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination.

## What do the 'Fundamental British Values' look like in our school?

At Violet Way Academy, we actively promote the British values through our school values, ethos and culture, our curriculum (including RE and PSHE) and by engaging our pupils in wider curriculum events throughout the year. Each year group's curriculum enables children to learn about and celebrate the achievements of people of diverse cultures, different to their own. Our 'Discovery' RE curriculum is mapped to the British Values for each Year group and this can be viewed in our RE Knowledge, Skills and Understanding grid on our school website: [Violet Way Academy - Religious Education](#)

### Democracy

*Pupils are listened to and are expected to listen to and respect the views of others.*

Children have many opportunities for their voices to be heard, through pupil voice, which is part of our teaching and learning monitoring cycle. They are consulted on the rewards which are incorporated into our school behaviour policy and their views are considered during curriculum design and when new initiatives or clubs are being considered. Children have opportunities for voting, for example voting for which book will be read to the class for story time. In Circle time and PSHE lessons, children discuss issues, resolutions and their own ideas and opinions.

School councillors will be elected, through democratic voting in each class at the beginning of the school year and meet regularly to discuss issues raised in School Council meetings. The Council will be able to genuinely effect change in the school, such as suggesting events in school for enrichment and choosing books for the school library.

### The Rule of Law

*An understanding of British Law is developed through our curriculum and assemblies. Our Golden Rules ensure our community is a safe and respectful environment for all, promotes positive relationships and excellent behaviour.*

- Each class displays the Golden Rules and knows how they apply in all areas of the school
- Playground games - children develop and agree the rules together – sports leaders support this process
- Following rules in PE and understanding why these are important
- Visits from members of the local community: PCSO, Police, Fire Service, Nurses

The importance of Law, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country is consistency reinforced throughout the school day as well as when addressing attitudes and behavioural themes through school assemblies. Pupils will be taught the values and reasons behind rules (laws) - that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when rules (laws) are broken.

### Individual Liberty

*Our pupils are encouraged to make choices in a safe and supportive environment.*

Within school, pupils will be actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school, we will educate and provide boundaries for young children to make choices safely.

Our curriculum provides children with numerous opportunities to make choices about adventurous activities in a safe environment including sporting activities, residential visits, and Forest School. Children will be encouraged to know, understand, and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through online safety and PSHE lessons.

Children are given choices about joining extra—curricular clubs and, through the school council, what new books they would like for the library.

Our restorative behaviour approach gives children choices through the conflict resolution process

## Mutual Respect

Our school has a set of core Golden Rules for our pupils, parents, and staff. Our Golden Rules are reinforced through displays, newsletters, and our website, in the curriculum when opportunities arise. Children discuss the Golden Rules, throughout the day, including as part of assemblies and through PSHE lessons.

All members of the school community treat each other with respect and adults throughout the school model, demonstrate, and promote respect for others. Our school values promote mutual respect – We care, We are brave, We celebrate individuality and We leave no one behind.

## Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

*Through our curriculum and special events children are taught to understand and appreciate the diverse culture in our society. This is explored through:*

- Assemblies, RE and PSHE lessons involve learning and discussions around different faiths, religions, and prejudices
- Our Jigsaw PSHE units 'Celebrating Difference' and 'Relationships' particularly emphasise the importance of tolerance
- Involvement with the local community e.g. Harvest Festival – donating to food bank, Christmas concert at the Church, raising money for charity, visits to local places of worship
- Planning activities around national and world celebrations or events e.g. religious festivals, raising money for charity, Remembrance day, Harvest, Diwali, Eid
- Developing an understanding of the importance of identifying and combating discrimination - The school works with a number of outside agencies and participates in national events to promote inclusion: School Nurse Team, Safer Internet Day, Anti bullying week, Odd Socks day, World Down Syndrome Awareness day, World Autism Acceptance Week

All children are involved in Forest Schools and care of the environment and animals that helps to develop their social and personal qualities, working together and an appreciation, understanding and respect for animals the environment.

We encourage parents and carers to engage with school to celebrate children's achievements, share in their learning and bring their own knowledge and experience into school. This helps us to break down any potential cultural barriers. Each year the school performs to parents and the community, for example, singing at the church and performing assemblies and class or year group performances. Our assembly themes are developed to reflect and celebrate the diverse nature of our school and the community we live in.

Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within the school. Children will have opportunities to learn about and visit different places of worship and we will invite special guests into the academy to share their knowledge and enhance learning.

## **Inclusion**

The Fierté Trust recognises the unique contribution of every individual in the school community. Violet Way is an inclusive school in which adults and pupils of all abilities and from all cultures and backgrounds are valued. Pupils' wider achievement is encouraged and celebrated and the timely progress of all our pupils is of paramount importance, as is the safeguarding and wellbeing of all pupils.

## **Monitoring and Review**

The Headteacher is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the British Values Policy. The policy will be reviewed every two years.