

## Promoting British Values at Greenmead School

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

At Greenmead we promote British Values through our six key values and curriculum. Our six key values are embedded in our ethos:

Be understood

Stand Tall

Love Learning

Join in

Stay Safe

Build it

We identify ‘British Values’ as:

### Democracy

At Greenmead democracy means the right to be heard. Through our value **Be Understood** we recognise the importance of providing each pupil with a method for communicating their wants, needs and choices. We value functional and simple communication strategies that enable our pupils to have a voice wherever they are, at home, school and in their community. We recognise the many different ways in which our pupils communicate and place equal value and importance on each of them.

Pupil communication skills are taught throughout the school day, in discreet communication or English lessons and across the curriculum.

### Rule of Law

At Greenmead understanding the rule of law means promoting positive behaviour across the school. Through our value **Stay Safe** we show high expectations of pupil behaviour and recognise that challenging behaviour is often a key barrier to pupil learning and an important tool for communication.

Positive behaviour is supported at Greenmead by Georgina Tongue who has a specific lead responsibility for pupil behaviour. Class teachers and their teams are

helped to analyse and breakdown the reasons and triggers for pupil behaviour and to develop plans to support pupils with this area of their special need.

### **Individual Liberty**

At Greenmead individual liberty means promoting and encouraging pupil independence in all aspects of their development. Through our value **Stand Tall** we encourage the development of physical independence skills, promoting active transfers and independence in all aspects of physical development.

Independent learning is promoted by all teachers and support staff through intelligent support, this means knowing when to take a step back and have a hands off approach to pupil learning, observing and only intervening when a pupil needs or asks for support.

### **Mutual Respect**

At Greenmead mutual respect means ensuring all our pupils are treated equally and with dignity. Treating our pupils equally does not mean that they all get the same provision but rather they get the provision and opportunities that they need. Through our value **Love Learning** we recognise and respect the need for a personalised and engaging curriculum and approaches to teaching that result in pupils enjoying their time at school and choosing to participate in their learning.

Treating our pupils with dignity is a key aspect of our learning ethos. This is promoted throughout the school day by ensuring dignity in all aspects of care and through age appropriate teaching and learning methods for pupils who are working within a developmentally lower ability than their chronological age.

### **Tolerance of difference faiths and beliefs**

At Greenmead being tolerant of different faiths and beliefs means recognising and celebrating the wide diversity our pupils bring to the school community. We are proud of our differences and recognise the unique contribution each pupil and their families can make. Through our value **Join in** we place a great emphasis on celebrating festivals from a wide range of religions so that more pupils have their religious beliefs recognised at school.

We also promote disability awareness with invited guests and volunteer play workers, with special educational needs, who provide role models for our pupils.