



WEST KIRBY SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

British Values Policy

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The government set out their definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. These were reinforced in Sept 2014 due to secularisation in some schools in the U.K.

Here at WKS, we focus on embedding fundamental British values throughout the school.

Our 'Footprints on the Map' project is fundamental in making links with young people in different parts of the world, including South Africa, India and China and is at the forefront of respecting and celebrating different cultures as a life-long aim of the school with a view to embedding the five strands of British Values.

The five British values are as follows:

- Democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs and at WKS, all are promoted and acted upon in the following ways:

Democracy

The School Council and Pupil voice are both significant in promoting democracy throughout the school. The 'Have your Say' documents for annual reviews are at the forefront of pupils having a voice within the school and a say on what goes on within it. Our SALT (Speech and Language Therapy) targets each week, especially 'Winning, Losing and Compromise' promote a democratic approach to learning. Peer and self assessment gives the pupils a part to play within the school in relation to teaching and learning. Detention slips and incident debriefs let our pupils have the opportunity to voice their opinions democratically and be heard and valued. WKS has an open policy for all staff and pupils to illustrate that we all have a part to play in the school.

The Rule of Law

The understanding of the importance of rules is consistently reinforced through assemblies and our cross curricular approach. The involvement of all our pupils in the formation of the school rules helps them to understand the reasons behind the rules and the causes and consequences of actions. PRICE, the Going for Gold System and various policies, including the WKS anti-bullying policy all contribute to the rule of law and how and why it should be upheld. Throughout the year we welcome visits from members of the wider community including police, the fire brigade and those who work in the justice system and social care. At WKS, we emphasise the importance of upholding the law to create a harmonious society for all.

Individual Liberty

WKS invests a great deal of time in creating a positive choice-making culture in our school, so that children are in a safe environment where choices and freedoms are encouraged. The importance of adhering to human rights is taught throughout the school, especially within History, PSHEE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) and R.E. (Religious Education.) Our PSHEE and SALT targets and sessions all encourage individual freedoms for all. Our E-Safety policy, and its emphasis on anti-bullying strategies and in keeping all our pupils safe at WKS, personalised learning, individual timetables, travel training, options and entitlements all foster WKS' belief that individual liberty for our pupils should be encouraged and celebrated in a respectful and safe environment.

Mutual respect

Mutual respect is at the forefront of life at WKS. Pupils and staff alike are encouraged to foster a mutual respect approach to all areas of school life. Our Going for Gold System, peer assessment and weekly social communication targets all focus on the need for mutual respect within the school and out into the wider community. Staff are encouraged to sit with pupils at lunchtime, our buddying policy encourages respect with peer groups and our International Schools status all promote and cultivate a place of mutual respect of other cultures. Pupils are challenged if the ethos of mutual respect at WKS is not upheld.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

At WKS, we offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum in which all major religions are studied and respected. We have themed days focusing on a particular religion or belief and challenge any language or action that shows intolerance of other faiths or beliefs. Our International Schools Status continues to encourage a tolerance and understanding of those from different religions and backgrounds and our reciprocal visits to South Africa, India and China through 'Footprints on the Map' foster a tolerance of all throughout the school. Our cross curricular approach in PSHEE, Humanities, R.E., English, History, to name but a few, all encourage and promote tolerance of other faiths. Challenges are made when a pupil is deemed to be acting in an intolerant manner.

WKS is committed to promoting democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and a tolerance of those with different beliefs or faiths throughout the school.

At WKS, we believe that promoting the five British values in a positive and celebratory way leads to a harmonious and forward-thinking school and fosters well-balanced, tolerant and forward-thinking young people of the future.

Policy written by:

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On behalf of the Governors: Mr J Wylie Chair of Governors

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To be reviewed: September 2020