Walverden Primary School

British Values Policy

Approved by:	Governors	**Date:** May 2026
Last reviewed on:	New policy	
Next review due by:	May 2027	

1. Statement of Intent

At Walverden Primary School, the promotion of British Values is an integral part of our provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development.

We recognise that SMSC development is crucial to pupils' growth as individuals and in enabling them to take their rightful place in their community as local, national and global citizens. British Values underpin the values, attitudes and behaviours we seek to develop and are fundamental in preparing pupils for life in modern Britain.

In line with Department for Education guidance, Walverden Primary School actively promotes the following fundamental British Values:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

These values permeate the life and work of the school and are embedded across the curriculum, behaviour expectations, pupil voice, safeguarding practice and wider school life.

2. Aims

Through the promotion of British Values, Walverden Primary School seeks to support pupils to:

- Develop reasoned personal, moral and social values
- Understand the pluralistic nature of British society
- Value everyone equally and build relationships based on trust, self-esteem and mutual respect
- Become active, responsible citizens who participate positively in a democratic society
- Develop an understanding of the world in which they live and the interdependence of individuals, groups and communities

These aims directly reflect the school's SMSC policy and ensure consistency across both areas**.**

3. Links to School Ethos and Values

The promotion of British Values is rooted in the school's ethos, mission statement and aims, which commit to:

- A safe, secure and inclusive learning environment
- High expectations for behaviour, achievement and respect
- Strong partnerships with families and the wider community
- Valuing the unique contribution of every child

As a diverse school community, we celebrate both the cultural heritage of our pupils and our shared identity as part of Britain.

4. British Values within SMSC

The promotion of British Values supports pupils' SMSC development in the following ways:

- Spiritual development – encouraging reflection on beliefs, values and identity, and respect for the beliefs and values of others
- Moral development – developing understanding of right and wrong and respect for the civil and criminal law of England
- Social development – enabling cooperation, participation, leadership and democratic engagement
- Cultural development – fostering understanding and respect for diversity alongside shared British heritage

British Values are therefore not taught in isolation but are woven throughout SMSC provision and everyday school life.

5. Promoting British Values in Practice

British Values are promoted through a whole-school approach, aligned with SMSC delivery, including through:

- The taught curriculum, including PSHE, Religious Education and wider subjects
- Assemblies and opportunities for reflection and discussion
- Clear behaviour expectations and restorative approaches
- Pupil leadership and school council
- Extra-curricular activities, trips and enrichment

Each British Value is also given an explicit focus during the school year to strengthen understanding.

6. How British Values Are Embedded

Democracy

Pupils are encouraged to understand how they can influence decision-making and have their voices heard through:

- School Council elections
- Pupil voice activities and class discussions
- Opportunities for consultation and feedback

This supports pupils' social development and understanding of democratic processes.

The Rule of Law
Pupils are taught the importance of rules and laws in creating fairness, safety and order through:

- Clear school rules and consistent expectations
- Assemblies and curriculum links
- Visits from external agencies such as the police and fire service

Links are made between school rules and the wider laws of society.

Individual Liberty
Pupils are supported to develop confidence, independence and self-awareness by:

- Learning about rights and responsibilities through PSHE
- Being encouraged to express views respectfully
- Developing emotional literacy and decision-making skills

Pupils learn how freedom is exercised responsibly and safely.

Mutual Respect
Mutual respect underpins relationships at Walverden Primary School and is promoted through:

- Positive relationships between pupils and adults
- High expectations for behaviour
- Modelling respectful language and conduct
- Celebrating achievement and effort

All members of the school community are valued equally.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs
Pupils are supported to understand, respect and celebrate diversity through:

- A broad and inclusive Religious Education curriculum
- PSHE and wider curriculum opportunities
- Assemblies, themed events and shared experiences

Intolerance, discrimination and prejudice are challenged and addressed in line with school policies.

7. Safeguarding and the Prevent Duty
The promotion of British Values supports the school's safeguarding responsibilities, including the Prevent Duty, by:

- Encouraging respectful dialogue and critical thinking

- Providing a safe environment for discussion
- Challenging discriminatory or extremist views appropriately

This policy should be read alongside the SMSC Policy and the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

8. Monitoring and Review

The effectiveness of this policy is monitored through:

- Curriculum and SMSC review
- Behaviour and safeguarding records
- Pupil voice and staff feedback
- Governor oversight