



# Policy for promoting British Values

**Person responsible: Head teacher**

**Ratified by the governing body: Spring 2021**

**Date for review: Spring 2024**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne-Marie Renshaw', is positioned above the printed name.

**Reverend Anne-Marie Renshaw  
Chair of Governors**

At Messing Primary School we uphold and teach pupils about the British Values which are defined as:

- democracy
- rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

These values are taught explicitly through the Personal, Social, Health and Emotional curriculum, wellbeing discussions and lessons, and Religious Education (RE). We also teach the British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum.

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through our daily assemblies and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running a successful School Council. We also actively promote the British values through ensuring that our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values. Actively promoting British Values also means challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

At Messing Primary School, these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

#### Democracy:

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council. The elections of members of the School Council are based on pupil votes. Pupils also have the opportunity to be involved in the planning of their topic themes and events. Additionally, children may be recommended to receive a Golden book award which are awarded to individual children (or classes) who show they are modelling the values of respect, resilience, team work, honesty, kindness, fairness, acting responsibly and striving to do their best.

#### The Rule of Law:

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days. The school has a structured behaviour policy which the children are very clear about. They work together to produce class rules and behaviour expectations. Alongside a very strong ethos of positive reinforcement of appropriate choices and behaviour, our levels of intervention follow a very

clear set of stages. Children are reminded of the expected code of behaviour and receive dojos, stickers, certificates and good news notes in home school contact books.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the police and fire service etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

#### Individual Liberty:

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices at our school, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we provide boundaries for our children to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and planned curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-Safety teaching and wellbeing/life skills lessons. Also, pupils are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. signing up for extra-curricular clubs, choosing the level of challenge in some lessons and assessing their learning against the success criteria in lessons.

#### Mutual Respect:

Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy are based around core values such as 'respect' and 'responsibility' and these values determine how we live as a community at Messing Primary School. Assemblies are based on values for life, and are central to how we expect everyone to go about their life at our school. Children and adults alike, including visitors, are challenged if they are disrespectful in any way. Our school values 'Be safe, Be kind, Be responsible, Be respectful' are highly visible around the school and are regularly discussed with pupils.

#### Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our local community which is by large white British. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. Our RE curriculum actively promotes respect and understanding for all faiths and cultures. Children also have the opportunity to take part in music and arts based projects and themed weeks involving a range of cultures.