



Promoting Fundamental British Values at Quarrydale Academy

Introduction:

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, and these values have been reiterated this year in *Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in Schools, DfE November 2014.*

At Quarrydale Academy these values are reinforced regularly alongside our key values.

Our key values are:

- Achieve
- Behave
- Co-operate

It is in the context of these key values that this statement should be read.

We actively teach and promote Fundamental British values in the following ways:

Democracy:

We have a student council which has two representatives from each tutor group, who are voted for at the beginning of each year by their peers. The council meets regularly with Miss Oldfield to discuss issues raised in council meetings.

The council has the chance to nominate charities which the Academy supports and helps to decide on the fund raising activities, staff appointments, school menus amongst many things.

The council is genuinely able to effect change within the Academy, recent examples of this are the renovations to the toilets, to enhance outdoor learning areas, school uniform and staff appointments. It also influences the evaluation of teaching and learning initiatives.

At the start of every school year, the children are able to put forward their views about the Academy. They also have the opportunity to write to their Head of Year to raise any items. Issues arising from this are fed into the School Improvement Plan.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of laws, whether they are those that govern the class, the Academy, or the country, is consistently reinforced at Quarrydale Academy.

Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind rules and laws. They learn 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, Fire Service and our Local MP help reinforce this message.

Pupils' pride in the Academy is shown by their excellent conduct, manners and punctuality. This is evidenced by lesson and general observations in and out of the Academy as well as discussions with pupils and feedback from places we visit. This has been achieved through the embedding of our Academy values, supportive parents and governors and high expectations of behaviour and learning from ALL staff. Our pupils can all articulate our Academy values and their learning targets, and can talk about how the values relate to their behaviour and relationships within Academy.

The concept of 'Take Care' is central to the way we live our lives in the Academy. We take care of ourselves, we take care of others, we take care of our Academy and take care of the environment and the world in which we live.

Parent/carers, staff, pupils and visitors are highly positive about both behaviour and safety. See parent and pupil survey summaries and Ofsted 2013 report. This is a result of our caring ethos and our swift response to any concerns or issues.

Individual Liberty:

At Quarrydale Academy, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment.

As an Academy we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education.

The pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development is well developed. We encourage our pupils to achieve their very best and to broaden their education to enable them to make informed decisions later in life as broad-minded and knowledgeable citizens. Pupils can reflect on their experiences in school, demonstrating imaginative and creative approaches and their curiosity for learning. They have a well - developed understanding of right and wrong through the use of positive role models in the Academy such as prefects and sports leaders and they understand right and wrong choices.

Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our eSafety and PSHE tutor sessions and impact days.

We aim to have a strong Anti-Bullying culture at Quarrydale Academy. Any issues are dealt with swiftly by our pastoral team, with parental involvement as required.

Whether it is through the options process in our curriculum, a choice of challenge, how they record their work or of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices throughout their time at the Academy.

Pupils are taught at an age appropriate stage about health, medicines, drugs, relationships, extremism and puberty.

Mutual Respect:

Mutual respect is at the heart of our values.

Through our carefully chosen assembly themes, SMSC tutor sessions and mapped curriculum plan, children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others.

All members of the Academy community treat each other with respect.

We have a raft of policies including SEND and Equality, agreed by all stakeholders which reinforce our commitment to valuing individuality and inclusion of all.

The Academy has a reputation for sporting, academic and fundraising excellence. The latter supporting local, National and International causes.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

We actively promote diversity through our learning about different faiths and cultures.

Assemblies, Morals and Ethics lessons, impact days and PSHE tutor sessions reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others.

Members of different faiths and religions are invited into the Academy, to share their knowledge and to enhance learning for all age groups.

Being part of Britain:

We value and celebrate being part of Britain. In general terms, we celebrate traditions throughout the year. For example, the Christmas nativity, Easter, Remembrance Day (which has a permanent memorial in our small hall).

We celebrated national events such as the Queen's jubilee and the London Olympics.

Further, children learn about being part of Britain from different perspectives.

Geographically, they learn about their local environment and compare it with different places all around Great Britain, celebrating the diversity of people, customs and landscape.

Historically, the children learn about British history. This spans across many centuries and includes; the Viking settlers, the Tudors, The Great Fire of London, World War 2 and many famous British people, saints and inventors.