

Policy Statement for Values Education  
At St Weonards Academy

**‘Growing Together, Learning Together’**  
**‘Together Everyone Achieves More’**

Our Aim for Values Education is:

To promote our school ethos which is underpinned by core values that supports the development of the whole child as a reflective learner. We understand that we have a duty to ‘actively 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.

Rationale to promote the values we consider important in our school

At St Weonards Academy we are giving a great deal of thought to the values we are aiming to promote. It is our aim to give children the opportunities to develop skills and values in order to live happily within the environment of our modern society. It is also to ensure that children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background. We are to make certain that our pupils leave school fully prepared for life in modern Britain . Through the promotion of our values we can help the children to develop meaningful relationships within the school and the wider community with their voice heard.

As a school community, we believe the ethos of the school should be built on a foundation of core values, which are; honesty, respect, responsibility, friendship, perseverance and courage as well as the key British values emerging from these. These core values will permeate the whole curriculum but will be especially heavily featured in PSHE, RE and whole school or class assemblies. They are the basis for the social, intellectual, emotional, spiritual and moral development of each child.

We actively encourage pupils to consider these values, thereby developing knowledge, skills and attitudes that enable them to develop as reflective learners and grow to be stable, educated and civilized adults.

Teaching and Learning of Values

- To actively promote a whole-school policy which has the support of all the staff and the Headteacher.
- To implement whole school assemblies that introduces monthly values as well as the core values.
- To follow the Jigsaw PSHE scheme of work to teach values through discussions and activities in weekly PSHE lessons.
- The Jigsaw PSHE scheme has British Values, SMSC and emotional literacy embedded throughout.

- To use values within lessons in which there are opportunities for personal reflection and moral discourse which promote a good understanding.
- Teaching and learning about values will take place through;
  - Teachers explaining the meaning of a value,
  - Pupils reflecting on the value and relating it to their own behaviour,
  - Pupils using the value to guide their own actions.
- Staff will model the values through their own behaviour.
- values will be taught implicitly through every aspect of the curriculum and school life.

The understanding and knowledge pupils are expected to learn include:

- an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process. This will be through voting for and having a say in school council and eco club
- an understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law, covered through regular teaching of Religious Education.
- an acceptance that people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour. Taught through Religious Education and PSHE lessons and being accepting of all visitors and people within our community.
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination, which will be implemented through our behaviour policy.
- An understanding of and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves, and the consequences when laws are broken
- an understanding of freedom of choice and the right to respectfully express views and beliefs. Through the provision of a safe, supportive environment and empowering education, we provide boundaries for our young pupils to make choices safely
- an understanding that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to *everyone*, whatever differences we may have, and to *everything*, whether it is a school resource, a religious belief or whatever.

Further actions St Weonards Academy will do to promote British values are to:

- include in suitable parts of the curriculum - as appropriate for the age of pupils - material on the strengths, advantages and disadvantages of democracy, and how democracy and the law works in Britain, in contrast to other forms of government in other countries
- ensure all pupils within the school have a voice that is listened to, and demonstrate how democracy works by actively promoting democratic processes such as a school and eco council whose members are voted for

by the pupils and lunchtime and classroom rules decided by the children themselves

- use opportunities such as general or local elections to hold mock elections to promote fundamental British values and provide pupils with the opportunity to learn how to argue and defend points of view
- consider the role of extra-curricular activity, including any run directly by pupils, in promoting fundamental British values, this includes, play leaders at lunchtimes, math's ambassadors, snack and school monitors, stalls run at PTFA events

### Classroom Ethos

Children need to feel secure and able to share their thoughts, feelings and experiences when they know that these are always welcomed and valued.

Activities which promote this ethos include:

- Creating a peaceful climate in the classroom and on the school site, especially when using 'calm me'.
- Taking children to places to experience peace and to encourage them to value them.
- Giving opportunities for decision making.
- School's behaviour policy that clearly defines how the school puts emphasis on behaving well and positive thinking.
- Giving time in class for pupil to respond to some of the basic needs within us: friendship, love, co-operation, to clarify their understanding of values.
- Helping children to be relaxed and unstressed but focused on their activities.
- Opportunity for role-play so that skills associated with negotiation, co-operation and assertiveness are developed. This helps children to understand the potential consequences of giving way to peer pressure.
- Opportunities for extra- curricular activities so children can carry through their values to different situations outside of the curriculum

### Conclusion

The approaches outlined in this policy describe how we at St Weonards Academy use core and British values as a basis for our work with other values addressed on a monthly basis which link into these. These are closely linked with the PSHE Jigsaw themes so there is a strong ethos continued across the school. The success of our approach to teaching and learning is not easily measured but it is evident in the school's positive ethos and in the personal qualities that pupils display in both school and the wider community.

### Themes to be covered

The values we focus on which coincide with the core and British values can be found in appendix 1.

Reviewed by:  
Mrs A Doughty  
Last reviewed: October 2021  
Next review: October 2022

### St Weonards Academy Values

Each half term there will be a core value and from that there will be a further value to focus on each month. The values have been designed to link in with our PSHE themes each term. The values will be introduced in our weekly Jigsaw/ values assemblies and embedded through PSHE lessons and the ethos of the school.

**Term 1: Respect** (Being me in my world)

Caring (September) and Happiness (October)

**Term 2: Honesty** (Celebrating Differences)

Peace (November) and Tolerance (December)

**Term 3: Perseverance** (Dreams and Goals)

Resilience (January) and Trust (February)

**Term 4: Responsibility** (Healthy Me)

Independence (March) and co-operation (April)

**Term 5: Friendship** (Relationships)

Love (May) and Thoughtfulness (June)

**Term 6: Courage** (Changing Me)

Thoughtfulness (June) and Hope (July)