

**Preparing Children for Life in Modern Britain –
British Values at Bentham Community Primary School**

At Bentham Community Primary School we nurture our children on their journey through life so they can grow into safe, caring, democratic, responsible and tolerant adults who make a positive difference to British society and to the world. We encourage our children to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world. We take our responsibility to prepare children for life in modern Britain very seriously and ensure that the fundamental British Values are introduced, discussed and lived out through the ethos and work of our school. Our curriculum provides a vehicle for furthering understanding of these concepts. In particular, our RE, SMSC and PSHE lessons provide excellent opportunities to deepen, develop, understand and actively promote their application to their own lives. Actively promoting also means challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including ‘extremist’ views. At Bentham Community Primary these values permeate all areas of school life and are reflected by the school’s simple motto: Building Our Future Step by Step.

British Value	Statement	Evidence	Impact
Mutual Respect and the Tolerance of those with different Faiths and Beliefs	Respect is a fundamental school value, around which pivots much of the work of the school. We pay explicit attention to this as part of our RE, PHSE, SMSC and Science curriculum. Respect is a school value that is discussed deeply, starting with self-respect and covering respect for resources, family, friends, and other groups; the world and its people; and the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Records of PSHE Sessions/ Class Big Books ● RE/Science curriculum - RE/Science/P4C planning and Everything Else books ● Assemblies ● Learning Walks for behaviour and behaviour for learning School Values ● Website updates 	Children can articulate why respect is important; how they show respect to others and how they feel about it for themselves. Children’s behaviour demonstrates their good understanding of this value in action. Children are able to talk about the different faiths and cultures they learn about, ask questions and show tolerance and respect for others of different faiths and religions.
Democracy	The children see democracy borne out in the everyday running of our school and see this as being an essential component of successful team working. Democracy is a school value that children meet when discussing respect and fairness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The establishment of a new School Council each year models the democratic process with the process of children fairly electing council members and then subsequent class councils reporting to the school council. ● School council minutes showing regular meetings. ● Learning Walks for behaviour and behaviour for learning, *Examples evident in PSHE planning. 	Children are able to work cooperatively in pairs and groups as well as in whole class situations. They understand about turn taking and respecting the views of others. Children in KS2 in particular are able to use the language of respect. Playtimes and behaviour for learning reflect the respect we have for each other in our school.
Rule of Law	The children are familiar with this concept through the philosophy that infuses the entire work of the school. They are familiar with the concept through the discussion of values and, in RE lessons, the idea that different religions have guiding principles. Children are used to debating and discussing laws/rules and their application. Children are familiar with the local police who visit to talk to them informally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Class and School Rules ● Learning Behaviours ● School Values ● PSHE/SMSC/P4C/RE lessons on the role of law and parliament ● School Council meetings. ● Learning Walks for behaviour and behaviour for learning. 	Children are able to articulate how and why we need to behave in school and demonstrate they understand and can abide by these rules. They are able to discuss and debate philosophical issues in relation to these.
Individual Liberty	Our Values based discussions and assemblies begin with discussion about the self, e.g. self-respect and self-worth in relation to the individual value so that children see that they are important in their own right. The philosophy of our teaching and learning places emphasis on the right to have our own thoughts and evidence based views. Children are strongly encouraged to develop independence in learning and to think for themselves.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children are able to show independence in learning and to think for themselves. ● Regular School Council meetings/minutes ● P4C lessons- Big Books ● Pupil Voice – Monitoring file 	Children understand the importance of accepting responsibility and of their right to be heard in school. They are consulted on many aspects of school life and demonstrate independence of thought and action.