

# British Values at Coopers School

Our core values at Coopers School are:

- **Respect**
- **Responsibility**
- **Fairness**
- **Pride**
- **Honesty**
- **Achievement**

These are translated through all our policies and procedures. The guidance given to Governors, staff, and students are:

- To show **respect** and tolerance of others and listen to their views/opinions
- To be excellent role models and take **responsibility** in all we do
- To cooperate with others and **be fair**, self-disciplined individuals whilst upholding a zero tolerance regarding bullying and antisocial behaviour
- We have a sense of **pride** in the school and all its work and strive to make a positive difference
- To **act honestly**, open mindedness, understanding and integrity
- To focus on hard work, **achievement** and excellence

The Department for Education has expressed the need for all schools to embed the fundamental British values. These are expressed as:

- A belief in freedom and individual liberty, democracy, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths are at the heart of our curriculum
- All children, regardless of faith, gender or colour, are given an equal opportunity to an education
- A respect for the rule of law

Our core values does fit naturally into this and to further complement our school values we are:

- **Attempting** to develop a sense of belonging in a national community increasingly defined by multi-faith, multicultural values.
- **Actively** promoting Britishness which also means challenging students, staff and parents who express opinions contrary to fundamental British values.
- **Implementing** behaviour and social policies (respect for others, following any rules, avoiding language which is racist, sexist, homophobic or derogatory towards particular faiths)
- **Promoting** an awareness of a range of faith celebrations – e.g. Diwali, Christmas and so on and possibly extend this by using songs, tales or rhymes from different countries

## **Respect for civil and criminal law**

Treating others with respect and tolerance is one of Coopers core values

- All pupils are expected to live and are taught to think in a morally and therefore have a sense of right and wrong. This is evident from work completed in PD time, SMSC across the curriculum, DLD days and reinforced through assemblies.
- At Coopers we provide pupils with a healthy approach to airing grievances and raising concerns in the School Council, and encourage confidence in expressing opinions and views through debates and form time discussions. This is supported by Student Voice which regularly feeds-back opinion. Pupils are given the opportunity to take on responsibilities as form captains, sports leadership roles, and also taking on the roles of guides on Open Days.
- Responsible behaviour to and from school is reinforced through assemblies and by PLT presence at the school gates and on Royal Parade, and bus stops every day. Any concerns and complaints are followed up and shared with staff and students.
- Responsible behaviour is encouraged through the rewards system and a inter community rewards points system is celebrated through achievement assemblies at the end off each term.
- Social justice is brought about through a range of opportunities and Peer Mentoring and our Anti-bullying programme.

## **Acceptance and engagement with fundamental British values of democracy**

This is promoted through:

- School Council and form representative elections
- Senior leadership elections
- Mock General elections

## **Contribution Positively to Life in Modern Britain**

Pupils actively contribute positively through:

- Carrying out regular charity work and events
- Celebrating International Days
- Attending a variety of conferences
- Celebrating Women's Day
- Taking part in a variety of activities such as sports events, World Challenge Harvest festival, Remembrance Day assembly and service, Christmas carol service, school plays, concerts, cabaret, World Book Day
- Entering a number of competitions such as the Chislehurst Society, poetry by heart.