

British Values Policy

Stanah Primary School



*Education is the most powerful weapon which
you can use to change the world.*

Nelson Mandela

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1 Our Ethos

We believe that a commitment to British Values prepares children for their future and the role they will play in our society and the wider world.

2 Our Approach

At Stanah Primary School, we take a holistic approach when teaching British Values and embed these values into our everyday life. We reinforce these values regularly in school life and actively seek opportunities to discuss them with our pupils. At Stanah, we believe that our approach creates an inclusive community and enables children to develop their understanding of their roles and responsibilities within it.

3 British Values at Stanah

Our curriculum is committed to the promotion and discussion of British Values and we embed them into our day to day school life. In all areas of our school, we actively promote the values of 'acceptance', 'tolerance' and 'respect'. To ensure that children understand what these concepts mean and what they look like in practice. Teachers model these values at all times and praise children when they show them. All classrooms have a British Values display, which is referred to by the children and is used to form discussions. Teachers encourage children to make use of the displays and add photographs to them, when a child is seen to promote one of our British Values.

Our curriculum provides many opportunities for discussing and promoting British Values, which we address through whole school assemblies and our PSHE lessons. Our PSHE Curriculum involves discussion about friendships, how we treat others and the importance of mutual respect. Through assemblies, collective worship and classroom discussion, we aim to make British Values relevant to all pupils and encourage them to understand what they can mean to us.

3.1 Democracy

At Stanah, we give all of our pupils a voice and encourage them to know that they are listened to. To achieve this, we create opportunities for our pupils to carry out Democracy within their classroom. At the start of each year, children decide upon their class charter and the rights associated with these. By involving children in the creating their classroom rules, we encourage them to take responsibility for their behaviour and recognise how they can contribute positively to their classroom.

Each year, we exercise Democracy in the classroom by voting for our new School Council members. The children are given many opportunities for their voices to be heard. The School Council are very active within our school; they meet regularly to discuss issues raised in class meetings and create new opportunities across school.

3.2 The Rule of Law

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced through our regular school day, as well as when dealing with behaviour. We believe that children need to be taught what laws are and why they are important, in order to prepare them for life beyond school. Through assemblies and classroom discussion, our children are taught the value and reasons behind laws and that they govern and protect us. We encourage children to understand that the Rule of Law is a responsibility we all share and that there are consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities, such as the Police and Fire Service and the local Magistrates help to reinforce this message.

3.3 Individual Liberty

Our school environment, and our commitment to our shared vision, ensures that all pupils feel safe and supported within the classroom and school. We actively encourage our pupils to make choices for themselves and develop the confidence to do so. Whether it be through a choice of learning challenge, how they record their work, or which extra-curricular clubs to take part in, we give pupils the freedom and opportunity to make their own decisions. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms; we believe that our role is to educate pupils on how to do this safely, which we achieve through our E-Safety and PSHE lessons.

3.4 Mutual Respect

Mutual respect is at the heart of our school values and is present in all aspects of our school life. All members of our community treat each other with respect. At Stanah, we teach that can show respect for others in even the smallest of ways; whether it be by listening to our peers, 'tracking the speaker', caring for others on the playground, or supporting one another in class. In day to day life, we teach our children that their behaviours have an effect on others and their own rights and we encourage them to take ownership of the decisions they make. To this end, we actively recognise when pupils demonstrate respect for others and dedicating time to celebrating it.

3.5 Tolerance of those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

Stanah is situated in an area which is not greatly culturally diverse; therefore, we place great emphasis on promoting diversity with the children. We believe we have a responsibility to teach our children about our diverse world and ensure they have an understanding of society beyond our local area. Assemblies are regularly planned to address this, through which we include stories and celebrations from a variety of faiths and cultures. Our RE and PSHE curriculum reinforce this teaching and given pupils a chance to ask questions and exercise their curiosities. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge, to enhance learning within the classroom and the school. We provide opportunities for children to visit places of worship that are important to different faiths.

At Stanah, we actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressions opinions to contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

4 Review and Update

This policy is to be reviewed on a yearly basis by the subject leader.