

Promoting Fundamental British Values at Carlton Digby School



Review date: September 2025
Next review: September 2028 (or earlier if required)

Introduction

The Department for Education requires 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*.

These expectations are outlined in the *Prevent Strategy (2011)* and *Promoting Fundamental British Values as part of SMSC in Schools (DfE, 2014)*, and are reaffirmed in *Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE 2025)* and the *Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales (2023)*.

At **Carlton Digby School**, we reinforce these values regularly through our curriculum, assemblies, enrichment activities, and our everyday practice. They are embedded within our ethos, which values respect, inclusion, and the development of confident, responsible citizens.

“They learn about fundamental British values, including democracy. Pupils are taught about different cultures and the importance of respecting how others’ lives may differ to their own. They learn how to become more confident and resilient.” (OFSTED 2025)

Democracy

Pupils learn about democracy through real participation and active voice.

We have a **School Council** with representatives from every class, elected annually by their peers. The Council meets regularly with Robert Bayliss to discuss issues that matter to pupils and to contribute to decision-making in school.

Recent examples include:

- Taking part in interview panels for teaching and leadership posts.
- Creating a **Pupil Wellbeing Group** to support peer voice.
- Choosing activities for **Sports Day** and designing our **Wellbeing Space**.
- Planning whole-school events such as the **Summer Fair** and school discos.
- Organising **anti-bullying competitions** and pupil interviews each term.

Our **international partnerships** with special schools and collaboration with local special schools, further develop pupils’ sense of *global citizenship*. Events such as an **International Schools Wellbeing Day**, a **Dance Festival**, and **Fairtrade Fortnight** enable pupils to appreciate diversity and celebrate contributions from different faiths, races, and cultures.

Each term, pupils share their views about school life. Feedback informs curriculum development and contributes to the **School Improvement Plan**.

The Rule of Law

The importance of rules and laws—whether within the classroom, the school, or the wider community—is consistently reinforced.

Pupils learn:

- Why we have rules and laws.

- How they protect us and keep us safe.
- The responsibilities and consequences linked to them.

We work closely with agencies such as the **Police** and **Fire Service** to support this understanding.

Our high standards of behaviour, manners, and respect are evident throughout the school. These expectations are reinforced through our core values, strong partnerships with parents and governors, and the consistent example set by all staff.

Through daily routines and curriculum themes, pupils learn to care for themselves, each other, their school environment, and the wider world.

Individual Liberty

Pupils are encouraged to make informed choices in a safe, supportive environment. We teach pupils to understand their rights, responsibilities, and freedoms, and how to exercise them safely—particularly through **PSHE** and **RSHE** lessons.

Our curriculum helps pupils build self-confidence and independence, enabling them to reflect on experiences and make responsible decisions. Pupils are taught about **health, medicines, relationships, puberty, and personal safety**, appropriate to their age and level of understanding.

We maintain an **anti-bullying culture**, ensuring issues are addressed swiftly and compassionately. (See our *Behaviour* and *Anti-Bullying Policies*.)

Mutual Respect

Mutual respect underpins all relationships in school. Pupils learn that their actions affect their own rights and those of others. Every member of the school community—pupils, staff, governors, and families—is expected to treat others with kindness and respect.

Our **SEND, Equality, and Behaviour** policies reinforce this commitment to inclusion and valuing individuality.

We also fulfil our duties under the **Equality Act 2010** to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

Through **RE, PSHE**, and assemblies, pupils learn about different faiths, cultures, and traditions.

We invite visitors from various backgrounds to share their experiences and regularly visit local **places of worship**.

These opportunities help pupils to appreciate diversity, challenge stereotypes, and build understanding of life in a multicultural society.

Being Part of Britain

We celebrate being part of modern Britain through both curriculum and cultural experiences. Throughout the year, pupils take part in events such as **Harvest Festival, Remembrance Day, Diwali, and Hanukkah**, as well as national occasions like the **Olympics** or **Royal celebrations**.

Pupils explore what it means to be a British citizen e.g.:

- **Geographically**, by studying local and national environments.
- **Historically**, by learning about key periods in British history.
- **Socially**, by developing pride in their community and understanding how they can contribute to society.

Embedding British Values Across the Curriculum

British Values are woven through all aspects of learning and school life.

Through **SMSC, PSHE, RSHE, RE**, assemblies, and enrichment activities, pupils are taught respect, fairness, democracy, and tolerance.

Curriculum planning highlights where these values are promoted, ensuring that pupils develop spiritually, morally, socially, and culturally while preparing them to participate positively in life in modern Britain.

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