



HOLMEWOOD HOUSE SCHOOL

Holmewood House School British Values Statement

The government set out its definition of 'British values' in the 'Prevent Strategy' (2011), which was designed to prevent extremism and religious radicalization of young people. British values are considered by the government to be

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

The promotion of 'British values' is central to the education of all at Holmewood House not least because British values have their origin in the Christian values of our nation.

At Holmewood we provide a quality education for all pupils which is centred around the individual and we are committed to quality education for all pupils. Our core values are essentially Christian through which we aspire to develop the whole person within and beyond the community of our school.

As a community - we value, good discipline, independence of mind, mutual support, and success for all.

In our relationships - we value a caring approach, encouragement, good manners and generosity.

On a personal level - we value integrity, effort, happiness and self-discipline.

Democracy:

Through our House system pupils are taught about democracy, the value of working together, supporting one another and celebrating achievements. Pupils take part in the School Council and learn how to contribute to healthy debate of local and national issues. The importance of laws and rules are consistently reinforced in the classroom, as well as through school assemblies. Pupils are taught to understand the need for laws - that they are there for individual protection, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Pupils follow a positive behaviour policy and clearly understand the rewards and sanctions that are used. Assemblies and discussions in class focus on recognising right from wrong and visits from the Police, Fire Service and local councillors help to reinforce these messages.

The Rule of Law:

Pupils are taught to differentiate right from wrong and to know that all people living in England are subject to the laws of the land. They are encouraged to value themselves and others developing their

own moral sense while understanding the impact of their actions on other people as shown in our expectations and school behaviour code of conduct.

Individual Liberty:

We encourage the respect of individual liberty. Pupils are encouraged to make independent choices knowing that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make choices, through the provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights, responsibilities and personal freedoms and receive advice about how to exercise these safely, for example through discussions of E-Safety and whole school responsibilities. All pupils are keen to support charities, whether local, national or global. They are taught consideration for others through our Religious Studies curriculum and PSHCE lessons in particular.

At Holmewood we believe developing self-esteem and self-confidence is very important. Individuals are encouraged and supported to achieve their very best as well as learning how the steps to success can be managed. Pupils choose from a wide variety of experiences to develop their own sense of purpose and self-belief. Celebrating such diverse talents is an enjoyable and important part of school life at Holmewood.

Mutual Respect:

We encourage staff and pupils alike to communicate honestly and openly and to understand the value of co-operation and consensus. Our emphasis on fairness and openness creates an environment in which all pupils can feel safe. The school promotes respect for others and this is reinforced through assemblies, our classroom and learning environments as well as extra-curricular activities such as sport. We work hard to promote anti-bullying through a focus on strategies to enable respect for difference and tolerance.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

Christian values and principles are explored primarily in religious studies lessons and assemblies together with House assemblies, form periods and PHSCE lessons but the integrity and spirituality of pupils from other faith backgrounds, or no faith background, will be respected and explored. We give our pupils the opportunities to experience such diversity within the wider community through visits, for example, to a Hindu Temple, local Mosque and through members of different faiths or religions being invited to school to share their knowledge and enhance learning within assemblies and in class. Assemblies and class work promote the diversity of society and the right for each person to be respected and valued equally regardless of ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.