



**Yavneh Primary School**

**BRITISH VALUES POLICY**

## **British Values**

In 2011, the government set out its definition of 'British Values' in the 2011 Prevent Strategy.

The Government emphasises that schools are required to ensure that key 'British Values' are taught in all UK schools.

They defined British Values as:-

- **Democracy,**
- **The rule of law,**
- **Individual liberty,**
- **Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.**

We promote these values through our mission statement, own school values, curriculum and enrichment activities.

Yavneh Primary School is committed to serving its community. We recognise the multi-cultural, multi-faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom.

We aim to 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 follow equal opportunities guidance which guarantees that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar. Yavneh Primary School is dedicated to preparing students for their adult life beyond the formal examined curriculum and ensuring that it promotes and reinforces 'British Values' to all its students.

We use strategies within the National Curriculum and beyond to secure such outcomes for students and ensure links for the teaching of British Values are highlighted on our half termly communications with parents. The examples that follow, show some of the many ways Yavneh Primary School will embed 'British Values'.

### **Democracy**

The principle of democracy will be consistently reinforced at Yavneh Primary, with democratic processes being used for important decisions within the school community. For instance, elections being held for the School Council. The principle of democracy is also explored in the History curriculum, as well as in PSHE and assemblies.

## **The rule of law**

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, will be consistently reinforced at Yavneh Primary School.

Our pupils will be taught the rules and expectations of the school, which are highlighted by the home school agreement that pupils, parents and teachers sign. Students will be taught the value and the reasons behind laws that govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from professionals, such as the Police and Fire Service, will reinforce this message.

Pupils are always helped to distinguish right from wrong. Our Behaviour Policy, sets out a zero tolerance approach to any form of aggression, abuse or violence.

## **Individual liberty**

Pupils will be actively encouraged to make independent choices, with the knowledge that they are in a safe, secure and supportive environment. Staff at Yavneh Primary will educate and provide boundaries for pupils to make informed choices, through a safe environment and an empowering education. We will provide opportunities within PSHE lessons for our pupils to explore and discuss the importance of making the right choices.

Pupils will be encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and will be advised on how to exercise these safely, for example through e-safety, assemblies and circle time and PHSE (in which we follow the Kapow and Heads Up programmes).

The extra-curricular activities on offer will encourage pupils to take opportunities to follow their interests in art, music, sport, reading etc.

Vulnerable pupils will be protected and there will be a strong anti-bullying culture at the school. We have an annual friendship themed week and all staff and pupils take an active part in this. The school operates a robust policy of logging incidents on CPOMs. Pupils will have key roles and responsibilities within school – e.g. School Council, Peer Mentors and School Librarians and School Prefects and Monitors.

## **Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Those with Difference Faiths and Beliefs**

Respect is one of the core values at our school. Pupils will know and understand that it is expected, that respect is shown to everyone, adults and children alike. Our pupils will learn that, their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community will follow the school motto and treat each other with respect. This is reiterated, through our teaching and learning environments.

Mutual respect is embraced throughout the curriculum, by providing the opportunity for students to express their views in a safe environment. Through our PSHE and Kodesh curriculums, pupils will be encouraged to discuss and respect differences between people of different faith, ethnicity, disability, gender, sexuality and difference of family situations.

We will offer a culturally rich and diverse curriculum and celebrate diversity. Respect for people of different faiths and beliefs will be promoted at all times. Children learn about different beliefs and this is supplemented by assemblies, which also mark and celebrate significant religious festivals, such as Chinese New Year, Hanukah and Diwali.

## **PREVENTING RADICALISATION AND EXTREMISM**

Actively promoting British Values also means challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

**Radicalisation** is defined as the act or process of making a person more radical or favouring of extreme or fundamental changes in political, economic or social conditions, institutions or habits of the mind.

**Extremism** is defined as the holding of extreme political or religious views.

The MAT board of the Yavneh School, has a zero tolerance approach to extremist behaviour for all school community members. We rely on our strong values, to steer our work and ensure the pastoral care of our children protects them, from exposure to negative influences.

Yavneh Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its children. As a school we recognise that, safeguarding against radicalisation is no different from safeguarding against any other vulnerability. All staff have completed Prevent training and are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British Values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

**At Yavneh Primary School we strive endlessly to ensure that our pupils leave with the strongest foundation of values upon which to build a successful life and to make a successful contribution to our Society.**

**This policy will be reviewed every one – two years or earlier if necessary.**

**Date: February 2025**

**Date of review: February 2026**